# CHINA REVIEW

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評論報

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March 1952

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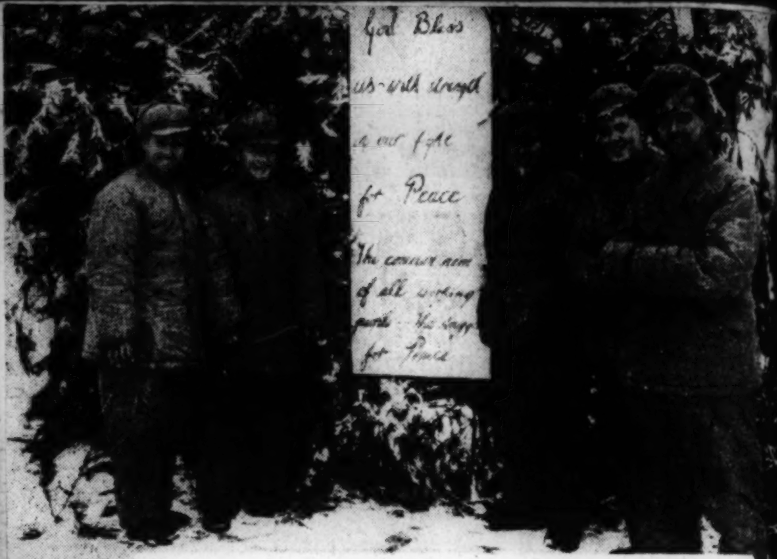
God Bless
us-with strength
in our fight
for Peace
The common aim
of all working
people. The struggle
for Peace

*American POW's in North Korea standing around their own peace slogan.*

*POW's attend a peace rally in their camp.*

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密勒氏
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# LETTERS

## From the People

**Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.**

## ORPHANS KILLED

To the Editor:

Following the liberation of Yunnan, I gradually saw that the purpose of the foreigners' coming to China to establish mission schools, hospitals and orphanages was to make Chinese people both worship and fear them. However, I was still somewhat unconvinced when I came across the frightful news of killing of children in the orphanages in Nanking and Canton, until one day recently when a similar case was uncovered in Yunnan.

Approximately 119 infant corpses, two or three sharing one small coffin no longer than two feet, were dug up at the foot of a hill near my house. Since the liberation of this city, the local Catholic Orphanage has taken in more than 300 children, and there are only 30 children alive at present.

The imperialists have been killing the future masters of New China! We are positively sure that they shall be justly punished for their crimes, and, with this example of imperialist handwork before our eyes, we shall redouble our support to our volunteers in Korea, so that the aggressors shall have no possibility of returning.

S. CHANG

Kaifeng, Yunnan
February 12, 1952.

## DAY NURSERY

To the Editor:

A day nursery has been established in a local electric light bulb factory. Every morning the mothers bring their babies to the nursery and take them back after work.

There are about 30 babies under the care of the nursery. Temperatures and stools are examined every morning. The children are fed every three hours, with milk provided for those who are undernourished. There are bedrooms, play rooms, nursing rooms, and a kitchen, and plenty of toys. With such excellent care, it is no wonder that every baby in the nursery gains weight regularly.

A working woman would never have dreamed of enjoying such privileges before liberation. During the Kuomintang's reactionary period, although mothers in the factory were allowed to go home and nurse their babies twice daily, the fatigue

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caused by walking the long distance between the factory and the dormitory as well as the worry about the lonesome baby at home greatly handicapped their work.

After the establishment of this nursery, the working women in the factory have fully realized that the production of their factory is to their benefit too. Consequently, their working efficiency has increased, with the result that they now weld 10 more bulbs per day. They have also declared that one year's work should be

## *Chinese Union Medical College*

To the Editor:

Peking Union Medical College, formerly one of the most powerfully entrenched bastions of US cultural aggression in the Far East, marked its first anniversary as Chinese Union Medical College on January 20.

As background for appreciating the profound changes being made in this world-famous institution, one may note the critical review and analysis of PUMC's history written by Dr. Teng Chia-tung, professor of medicine at the college, and published in the Peking People's Daily two months ago. Dr. Teng, a PUMC alumnus, did post-graduate work at Boston City and Thorndike Memorial Hospitals in Boston.

According to his article, the amount of US monopoly capital used to set up PUMC was as "one hair from a herd of nine cows." Yet for that "one hair" the college was purely American except for its geographical location. Even that spot was like an island out of the Western world.

After several years' saturation in such a stifling atmosphere, every student was turned out with eyes cast across the Pacific. Graduates tried to maintain a special position above Chinese sociey.

Concerning research, "not one Chinese health or hygiene problem was ever solved in the PUMC. The aim was individual notoriety; the motto 'research for the sake of research,'" Dr. Teng wrote.

During the 30 years' history of the college up until last year, only 361 doctors were graduated. Of these, 54 exiled themselves abroad. Another sizable group of women graduates settled down to becoming housewives, leaving the "effectives" a small number indeed, and they have limited themselves to the rich coastal cities.

Now, however, all this is changing. Even with a greater number of post-graduate fellows and observers than of undergraduates, the first year class in 1951 is the largest in the school's history, numbering 41 students. The next class will be still larger. Chinese is now the official language for lectures, notices, and patients' records.

Everyone is confident that this former stronghold of US imperialism will become one of new China's most productive training centers for scientifically equipped medical personnel to serve the Chinese people.

BETTY CHANDLER CHANG
Tientsin
February 3, 1952.

done within 10 months, and that they shall carry out this pledge.

Before liberation, Kao Yu-fu cursed her fate for being a woman, but now she and another worker, Wang Mei-chih, have pledged to produce in order to help China's reconstruction and show their gratitude to Chairman Mao!

HU SHIH-LUNG

Nanking
February 12, 1952.

**NATIONAL GUARDIAN**

For readers in China who wish to keep abreast of developments in America, the *National Guardian* may be ordered through the *China Monthly Review* for ¥75,000 a year, postage included.

**THE REVIEW'S ENGLISH LESSONS**

A COLLECTION of 20 English Lessons, originally appearing in the *China Weekly Review*, now published in pamphlet form. Covering a wide variety of subjects, the English Lessons are particularly useful to those who want to learn modern idiomatic English by the self-taught method.

Obtainable at the *China Monthly Review*, 160 Yenan Road, Shanghai (上海延安東路一六〇號密勒氏評論報) ¥2,500 per copy, including postage. Discount of 20 percent for group purchases of 20 copies or more.

## SPECIAL SCHOOL

To the Editor:

A special primary school for the children of revolutionary heroes has been founded in Foochow. At the time of its establishment last October the school had 127 pupils whose ages ranged from six to 12. The parents of some of these children were martyrs of the revolution while others are now defending their country on the Korean front.

The school supplies the children with food, clothes, books and other necessities. The government spends 169 catties of rice per month on each pupil. To promote the children's well-being the school invested ¥7,000,000 in athletic equipment for physical training classes. A good clinic checks the students' health regularly. Extra nutritious food is prepared for children whose physical condition is not too strong. As a result of this special care, all pupils are becoming stronger and gaining weight. One of the pupils, Shao Chin, gained nearly five pounds in three weeks.

The children are conscientious in their school work. They attend classes regularly and fill in some of their out-of-school hours by reading children's papers, magazines and books in the well-stocked library. Exceptional progress is being made in classwork. For instance, the second grade averaged 83 percent in composition.

Even the youngest of the pupils have glorious stories to relate of harsh struggle in the days of the Kuomintang. The children of martyr Chen Heng-yuan, who died while fighting with the guerillas in Fukien, spent two years in a KMT jail. The enemy unsuccessfully tried all sorts of threats and tricks to make the two children

*(Continued on Page 310)*

# The Month in Review

- ***Crime Against Humanity***
- ***Korean Prisoners Massacred***

## Crime Against Humanity

WITH millions of civilian dead and homeless in Korea as a direct result of the deliberate US campaign of extermination, the latest American crime to come to light has been the launching of bacteriological warfare in Korea. Not content with the wiping out of entire cities and towns by napalm bombings, massacres of military and civilian prisoners, and campaigns such as "Operation Killer," the Americans have resorted to one more bestiality in their frantic efforts to conquer the Korean people and extend their aggression in Asia.

Proceeding in a vein which surpasses the savagery of Hitler Germany and Hirohito Japan in the last war, the American invaders, by a systematic spreading of smallpox, cholera, and plague germs over North Korea, have shocked and horrified the entire world.

North Korean Foreign Minister Bak Hun Yung's protest to the United Nations on February 22 reveals in detail the use of bacteriological weapons by US forces in Korea. The charges, fully documented, show that the Americans have engaged in spreading infectious diseases on a scale unparalleled in world history. This most recent American crime in Korea is further proof that the US, having failed to win a military decision and forced to negotiate for a cease-fire in Korea, is resorting to even more revolting acts of barbarity in an effort to stave off defeat.

The record of American preparation and use of bacteriological weapons in Korea is a long one. Last March, a US naval ship, under Crawford F. Sams, chief of the Public Health and Welfare Section of the UN Forces General Headquarters, sailed to Wonsan on the east coast of Korea. Although masquerading as an epidemic control ship, it was actually loaded with bacteriological installations and was used for testing germ weapons on North Korea and Chinese prisoners.

Commenting on the activities of this ship, the April 9, 1951, issue of **Newsweek,** under the head, "Bubonic Plague Ship," stated: "Look for news of the secret mission of a Navy Epidemic Control Laboratory ship to Wonsan harbor on the east coast of North Korea, where the navy has maintained a lengthy siege." The weekly went on to say, "The ship is an infantry landing vessel with a laboratory installed, complete with mice and rabbits. . . . The navy landing parties have been grabbing up numbers of Chinese Reds from the tiny islands of the harbor and taking them back to the ship, where they are tested for symptoms of the dread bubonic plague."

On May 8, 1951, North Korean Foreign Minister Bak in an earlier protest to the UN pointed out that documents captured from the secret archives of the Syngman Rhee government during the liberation of Seoul contained irrefutable evidence that Rhee's army headquarters, established and directed by American military advisers, had, long before launching an open attack on North Korea, planned the waging of bacteriological warfare against the North and had taken measures for implementing these plans.

In the same protest to the UN, the foreign minister said that medical investigation had established that, during their retreat from North Korea in December 1950, American troops resorted to spreading smallpox infection among the civilian population of the temporarily occupied districts of North Korea and among the troops of the Korean People's Army and Chinese volunteers. He showed that after the liberation of North Korea, until the war stated, not a single case of smallpox occurred there. Yet, between the middle of December 1950 and January 1951, smallpox cases were registered simultaneously in a number of districts from seven to eight days after their liberation from American occupation. The number of cases rapidly mounted and in April 1951, exceeded 3,500, of which 10 percent were fatal. In districts not occupied by troops, there were no smallpox cases.

The most recent use of germ warfare by the Americans comes after the failure of their Korean military adventure and their nine months' stalling in the cease-fire negotiations. Using every trick and delay to obstruct the talks, they are still trying to pull themselves out of their hopeless situation in Korea. Their answer to world-wide pressure for a Korean cease-fire has been a deliberate attempt to create frightful epidemics aimed at the wholesale and indiscriminate annihilation of the Korean people. This, added to their past performances with napalm bombs, wiping out of towns and villages far from the front, and even use of poison gas, increases the already long list of American violations of international conventions.

Referring to the latest US barbarity as "the most serious criminal act in the history of mankind, viciously violating all international conventions relating to war," Foreign Minister Bak in his February 22 protest said that US forces had been systematically spreading large quantities of bacteria-carrying insects by plane over the North Korean and Chinese volunteer front-line positions and rear since January 28 of this year.

The foreign minister cited the following instances: On January 28, military aircraft dropped three types of infected insects over the Yongsodong area southeast of Ichon.

On January 29, military planes again spread large numbers of infected insects over the Ichon area.

On February 11, planes dropped large numbers of paper tubes and paper packets filled with various types of bacteria-carrying insects over North Korean and Chinese volunteer front-line positions in the Chorwen area, the Sibyonni area, and in the Pyonggang area.

On February 13, planes spread great quantities of diseased insects over the Kumhwa area.

On February 15, military aircraft released large quantities of disease-laden insects over the Pyonggang area.

On February 16, planes again spread infected insects over Korea, in the Hongsu and Ochonni area, east of the Pukhan River.

On February 17, four planes dropped their cargo of diseased insects over the Shankapri and Hakkapri areas north of Pyonggang.

In detailing dates and locations when the American planes let loose their infected cargoes over Korea the foreign minister listed various kinds of flies, fleas, ticks, spiders, mosquitoes, ants and other bacteria-carrying insects. He also pointed out that some were types never before seen in Korea, thus proving beyond doubt that the diseased insects had been brought in from outside of Korea. Laboratory tests revealed that the insects were infected with plague, cholera and germs of other infectious diseases.

In pointing up American preparations for the use of bacteriological warfare, the North Korean foreign minister stated that the Biological Warfare Section of the US Army Chemical Corps has manufactured 16 kinds of bacteriological weapons to spread bacteria by air and water for the mass annihilation of the population.

Aside from the US navy ship which used prisoners of war for experimental purposes, the foreign minister said that the Americans have been openly collaborating with Japanese bacteriological war criminals who, through US pressure, had been freed in 1950 of charges of conducting such warfare in China during World War II. Among such criminals sent to Korea by the Americans are Shire Ishii, Jire Wakamatsu and Masajo Kitano.

IT is no light matter to accuse a government of crimes against humanity greater than those committed by the Nazis and the Japanese in the Second World War, but the whole conduct of America's attack on Korea has shown that the Truman administration is prepared to attempt the wholesale extermination of a people whose only "crime" has been to resist invasion of their homeland.

The slaughter and destruction created by the Americans in North Korea have clearly demonstrated to the people of Asia, and the whole world, what US policy, shorn of all its fine phrases, really means. The crimes MacArthur and Ridgway have carried out in the name of "western democracy" and "UN police action" will not be forgotten by the civilized world. At the same time, as the record of World War II shows, instead of breaking down the resistance of the people, the American campaign of extermination and terror can only succeed in increasing the determination of the Korean and Chinese people to drive the aggressor out of Korea. What the little men in the State Department and the Pentagon seem unable to understand is that all the horror weapons at Washington's disposal can never overcome this determination of a people fighting for their independence and own kind of government.

The true face of American imperialism has once more been bared. The men who are carrying out Wall Street's war in Korea are using the same savage methods practiced by the German and Japanese war criminals in the last war. Like their predecessors, they will be held accountable for their crimes against peace and humanity.

Already the people of the world are raising their voices in protest against this latest crime of the American government. In this respect the American people have a great responsibility. The people of America must demand an immediate cease-fire in Korea and an end to these acts of sickening barbarism which the Pentagon madmen are daily committing in their name.

## *Korean Prisoners Massacred*

THE brutal massacre of 75 prisoners of war and the wounding of 152 others in the POW camp on Koje Island in South Korea has ripped aside the veil covering the methods used by the US military in their attempts to force North Korean POW's to say they wish to remain in South Korea. The demand for "voluntary repatriation" of Korean and Chinese POW's has been one of the chief American stalling-points in the cease-fire negotiations.

News of the mass murder of the North Korean captives, which was withheld for five days by Ridgway's headquarters, leaked out through Korean sources to the press. Dispatches from correspondents of both sides reveal that at dawn on February 18, the US 25th Division's "famed" 27th Wolfhound Regiment, surrounded the 5,900 prisoners in Camp No. 62 on Koje Island to enable American personnel to carry out "interrogations to allow civilian internees in the compound complete privacy of expression."

When the entire camp staged a demonstration against this type of "interrogation" and shouted "Long Live Kim Il Sung," the Americans opened up with machineguns and began hurling hand grenades into the midst of the unarmed prisoners. Using rocks, the prisoners attempted resistance and one American was killed and more than 20 others wounded.

The American attempts to suppress the story can be seen from an **AP** dispatch on February 22 which said, "an American unit was placed around the compound before daylight," while "United Nations personnel proceeded with individual interrogations," and a "clash in the compound followed, but the censorship prevented identification of the American soldiers involved. . ." First reports, several days after the incident, placed casualties much lower than the actual figure.

The true nature of the US scheme of hiding behind "voluntary repatriation" was bared in a **Reuters** story on February 22. "When the riot occurred, a second screening was underway to determine which prisoners held 'pro-democratic views'" and "200 judges, lawyers and police, comprising the screening committee, continued working into other compounds" because the "South Korean government wanted the United Nations command to release 'pro-democratic' civilians as additional South Korean manpower," the British news agency stated.

Despite all later attempts to put the blame on the POW's, American news sources made it clear that US troops had started shooting before any action by the prisoners took place. The **Stars and Stripes'** correspondent reported: "American troops moved in as soon as the internees displayed an ugly mood."

The whole bloody incident has also thrown the spotlight on American treatment of Korean and Chinese POW's. In a frenzied effort to find "volunteers" among the POW's who will declare their desire to remain in South Korea or be "repatriated" to Taiwan, camps have been infested with teachers of "democracy" such as Syngman Rhee and Kuomintang "instructors." In addition, in complete violation of international law, fascist education has been imposed on the POW's; they have been forcibly tattooed with reactionary slogans on their bodies; and they have been dragooned into "anti-Communist" groups. The Koje Island camp demonstration was an expression of POW resistance to the barbaric treatment the men had been receiving.

The prisoners in this camp are part of the 37,000 whose names were on the first list of Korean prisoners handed to the International Red Cross by the Americans but who are missing from the lists handed over in the exchange of prisoner lists by both sides at Panmunjom last December. The Americans claimed that they were "wrongly" classified and had been re-classified as South Korean civilians. The reason given was that they were originally South Koreans "forced" into the North Korean Army and have petitioned to remain in South Korea. They thus were reclassified as South Korean civilians. Yet, as Paris Ce Soir correspondent Wilfred Burchett reported from Korea, even according to US State Department sources, the demonstration of the Koje Island group of 5,900 was 100 percent in favor of North Korea. And so machineguns and grenades were turned loose on them.

Coming at a time when the Americans have unleashed bacteriological warfare on an unprecedented scale in Korea this latest act of savagery further opens the eyes of the entire world, not only to the vicious methods of American imperialism but the ruthlessness of Wall Street's military machine.

## COVER PICTURE

**Two of the girls studying at an agricultural school in the suburbs of Peking. After a six months' training course they will be assigned as tractor drivers to one of the tractor stations in the countryside.**

# Land Reform in Fukien

*Chen Fu-sheng*

---

ONE day late last year the President's Office of Amoy University received a telegram from the Ministry of Education stating that the teachers and students of the College of Arts and Law would be given an opportunity to participate in land reform work in south Fukien.

A few days later the various departments were divided into two sections, each to work in a different area. My section was assigned to the Anki district.

Upon our arrival, Secretary Meng of the Anki District Committee made a report on local conditions and on the progress of the land reform work. This district is mountainous with scattered villages. The landlords, he said, had exploited the peasants by high rentals and usurious interest rates.

Rentals were generally from 60 to 80 percent of the yield—in some cases even higher. Interest rates were exorbitant. (In the village where I worked, peasants who borrowed one silver dollar a week or two before the harvest had to repay two or three immediately after the reaping: in a few days the landlords made from 100 to 200 percent profit!)

A number of powerful local families, descendants of Li Kuang-ti (Ching Dynasty prime minister), had managed to maintain their wealth and feudal perogatives through the years and continued to exact tribute from the peasants right up to the present day.

Generally, the landlords were local despots and bandit leaders. They often raped peasants' wives and, in some cases, even killed peasants whose wives they coveted. There were a number of instances of sadistic killings, such as burial alive, of husbands who stood in their way.

They had burned entire villages because the inhabitants dared to cross them. They set up their own "courts" and private "prisons" and detained peasants or sentenced them to death at their pleasure.

Secretary Meng went on to say that although Anki had been liberated in September 1949, the long-exploited and repressed peasant masses had remained dormant for some time. This was largely because the region was infested with bandits, who were not finally wiped out until March 1950.

Only after the launching of the campaign to suppress Kuomintang special agents and exterminate the bandits did the peasants begin to realize clearly who had oppressed them and who had liberated them. They could then appreciate their own united strength and understand the real significance of land reform.

We 18 persons of the university's Foreign Language Department went to our sub-district headquarters the following day. Two students and I were sent with the working team assigned to Ching Tou Village.

On the way we were struck by the dilapidated buildings and sickly-looking people. We learned that they lived on only rice gruel and sweet potatoes, with the result that malnutrition and frequent illness had left their mark on many. Adults frequently were no huskier than normal teen-age children.

Reaching the village, we found that we had unfortunately missed the first two stages of the program—the arousing of consciousness and the division of classes were over. The old cadres told us that when they first came to the village they set about familiarizing themselves with local conditions.

When they had found enough active peasants, they conducted a training class to point out to them their own strength. They also helped the landlords' victims organize a face-to-face struggle against their oppressors. About 600 oppressed peasants attended the struggle meetings.

After the political consciousness of the peasants had been raised, the working team held a training class for local cadres. It was at this point that we arrived. A 17-man committee was set up to carry out the confiscation and requisitioning of farm land — the third stage in the program.

We helped the committee compile statistics, finding that the village had 672 households totaling 2,836 persons and nearly 4,162 *mou* (one *mou* is one-sixth of an acre) of farmland. The total land confiscated was 1,519 *mou*, as follows:

| *Source* | *Mou* |
|---|---|
| 4 landlord families (29 persons) ...... | 116 |
| 7 semi-landlord families (42 persons) ...... | 39 |
| 7 wealthy farmer families (43 persons) ...... | 27 |
| 9 petty lessors ........ | 15 |
| Ancestral land ........ | 1,212 |
| Non-resident ownership | 110 |

The ancestral land, amounting to nearly 30 percent of the total farm land, had been acquired long ago by the ancestors of a number of families who willed that it not be broken up but be cultivated by the descendant families in rotation.

Ancestral land yielded less than other equally fertile land because the cultivators were reluctant to use sufficient fertilizer or to undertake necessary conservation work. This was because they had to surrender part of the harvests for the upkeep of ancestral halls and temples and often had to wait for as long as 10 or 15 years for their turn on the land. This type of land was therefore redistributed in order to raise productivity.

In addition to the land, four buildings, four draft animals, 39 farming implements and 300 catties of grain were confiscated from the landlords.

BEFORE the actual distribution took place, the working team conducted an intensive educational campaign among the people, using both mass meetings and small group discussions for the purpose.

During this campaign the cadres concentrated on putting across six main points: 1) Farmers, as members of one big family, should maintain solidarity among their ranks and should also make mutual concessions wherever necessary; 2) Cadres should be strictly impartial; 3) As the purpose of distribution was to create conditions favorable to production, there could not be absolute equalization; 4) The basic principle was "land to the original tillers" but necessary adjustments might be made; 5) Fair and equitable distri-

Smiling Honan peasant holds armful of a bumper millet crop. Farm production has risen sharply with land reform.

bution could be assured through democratic negotiations; 6) Results of distribution should satisfy the peasants.

The next step was the holding of peasants' representatives' meetings at which tentative proposals were made as to who should receive land. Approval of these suggestions was then sought from the peasants. A distribution committee was appointed, which we aided by preparing lists of prospective allottees and descriptive sheets of land parcels showing size, location, fertility, etc.

In the meantime, the complicated mortgage problem was tackled. The local custom had been for a mortgagor to convey the use right of his land as security for a debt, while he retained the right of ownership. Very often the mortgagor failed to repay the debt and the mortgagee continued to use the land. Some of these cases dated back 30 to 50 or more years.

Now with land redistribution, it was necessary that such outstanding questions be amicably settled, so the working team sought out interested parties and helped them to come to terms. Usually they agreed on the principle of equal sharing of the parcel of land. Actually, arrangements were generally made to get the mortgagor to surrender to the mortgagee a piece of land of similar size and fertility.

Another problem which arose was over the fact that all land was not of the same fertility. There thus had to be some point system of judging land. After considerable calculation, the committee suggested, and the people accepted, the principle that all land be divided into three grades, with 1 *mou* of average land equalling seven-tenths of a *mou* of good land and 2 *mou* of poor land.

The day the land was distributed was a great occasion for the villagers. Each of 14 groups went to its designated place where the land parcel descriptions had been posted. Each person chose the land he wanted by pointing to the sheet. If there were no objections from his fellow farmers, he took it down and the land was his. As the work had been well planned, distribution went off speedily and with good order. Sixty-seven percent of the whole population (80 percent of the working peasants) obtained land at the average rate of 1.5 *mou* per capita.

AS soon as land distribution was completed, a new supreme village authority was set up in the form of a joint committee composed of the village head, secretary of the village branch of the New Democratic

Youth League, commander of the village militia, chairman of the peasants' association and head of the women's association.

The next task was to deal with those landlords, local scoundrels and former KMT officials who had committed crimes against the villagers. Thus, the People's Court was established to handle such cases. The deputy director of the working team was chief judge, while the other judges were the village head and the heads of the peasants' and women's associations. Two of the accused were sentenced to five-year terms of imprisonment, while several were paroled in custody of the villagers for from one to five years.

On the last day of the trials, when sentence was passed, the proceedings were thrown open to the public who was asked to approve the work of the court and confirm the sentences. This meeting, probably the largest in the village's history, was attended by 2,000 people.

After a meeting to celebrate the conclusion of land reform, we left for Anki, being sent off from the village by a great display of firecrackers and cheers from the villagers who lined the road.

At Anki we heard a report from Secretary Meng who summarized the results of the work in the entire district. He said that the program had been generally successful. First, the people's political consciousness had been greatly heightened and their patriotism aroused. More than 1,000 peasants had applied for

Harvester

eration
a state
rm in
antung.

admission to the People's Liberation Army. Six hundred eighty struggle meetings had been held in the 141 villages, with a total attendance of approximately 300,000 people. Second, the 1,400,000 *mou* of land requisitioned had been successfully allotted to 61 percent of the population. Third, popular organizations, such as the peasants', youth's and women's associations and the village militias were growing rapidly.

Our last days in Anki were spent in reviewing our activities. Each member of the various work teams evaluated his own work in a report, pointing out what seemed to him to be his successes and his failures

In thinking back over my experience, I remember that our working group at first sight seemed only a mixture of heterogeneous elements, made up as it was of PLA officers and privates, local cadres, professors, students and others. We spoke different dialects, were of diverse ages and educational levels. But the thing which bound us into a homogeneous entity was simply class consciousness, a realization that we were taking part in the righting of a long-standing injustice perpetrated by a minority ruling class against the great majority of the people.

The only way that the gap that has long existed between the factory and farm workers on the one hand and the petty bourgeois intellectuals on the other can be bridged is by direct association.

It became clear to me that the purpose of land reform is not solely to satisfy the land hunger of the peasants, but to release rural potentialities, to strike a mortal blow at feudalism, the root of China's poverty and backwardness.

## *THE LAND HAS BEEN RETURNED*

**Sixty-year old Mohammedan Ba Liu-cheng lived in a small hamlet in Fou Kan *Hsiang* in the Northwest province of Shensi. Forty years ago his father had sold his only five *mou* of land to pay for Ba Liu-cheng's wedding. But after the land was sold, the taxes and daily living ate up all the money and the newly married couple was soon penniless. Ba Liu-cheng lived by whatever work he could find, while his marriage soon broke up because of poverty.**

**When land reform took place in this *hsiang*, he received five *mou*, the very same land his father had sold 40 years ago. Now, whenever he meets anyone, he says, "The land has returned to the old master! I shall work hard to raise many crops so I can repay Chairman Mao for this honor."**

# CHINA'S OIL INDUSTRY

## HSU CHIEN

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THE most recent of the national exhibitions held in Peking has been the Oil Industry Exhibition. This, like the Coal Mining Exhibition and the Railway Exhibition, had the purpose of acquainting the people with the remarkable achievements made in reborn China and of inculcating a spirit of patriotism. The Oil Industry Exhibition, like the others, attracted so many visitors that it was extended.

The exhibition showed that within a short period of two years the oil industry of new China has made great headway. No longer can one shrug his shoulders at the mention of China's oil industry, as used to be the case in KMT days. New oil deposits have been discovered and new wells drilled. Products of the people's oil industry are replacing those of Standard, Texaco and Shell.

China abounds in oil deposits, which were indicated by colored lights on the huge chart at the entrance to the exhibition. From the vast Northwest deserts to the North China plain, from Fushun in the Northeast to the Kweichow-Yunnan Plateau, across the Hunan-Kwangsi hills, and in the Szechuen Basin, oil deposits are everywhere. They had not been developed in the past, owing to imperialist exploitation and domestic reactionary rule.

The exhibition showed the rapid change, from stagnation to progress, when China's natural resources returned to their rightful owners, the people. One exhibit was of two large models, one of a cracking plant and the other of a synthetic plant. Both were built after liberation, the former taking only four months.

The synthetic plant was started during the Japanese occupation, but was stopped halfway because of technical difficulties. The KMT not only did not complete the plant, but even dismantled some of the installations and demolished others.

After liberation, the workers rebuilt the plant, with the assistance of Soviet experts. It has now begun production, a big event in the history of China's oil industry, which has opened up brilliant prospects for the future.

The main achievement thus f in the oil industry has been in prospecting. There were twice as many prospecting teams in 1951 as in 1949. China's former reactionary rulers invested nothing in drilling projects, but now this takes up 76 percent of the total investment in the oil industry.

Drilling has gone ahead by leaps and bounds. The aggregate depth of wells drilled in 1951 is expected to total more than 3.5 times that of 1949. Formerly, it was considered impossible to drill in the Northwest during the winter. However, advanced Soviet techniques, including the installation of heating equipment, has enabled drilling to proceed, thus raising the capacity of drilling installations by one-fourth.

Considerable advance has also been made in tool manufacturing. At present, the workers are able to make hundreds of types of spare parts for the drilling equipment.

One exhibit showed the great increase in crude oil output and refining capacity. The 1951 output of crude oil toppe that of 1950 by 70 percent, while kerosene output increased by 40 percent and gasoline by more than 55 percent. These are all-time high records.

Rapid development is taking place along other lines also.

Two models from the Peking Oil Industry Exhibition. Left: B
liberation climatic conditions prevented drilling during four months
year. This new-type derrick allows for year-round drilling. Right: A
large industrial center in the Northwest attracted many of the spectators.

As compared with pre-liberation days, the tank volume of the China National Petroleum Corporation has increased by 150 percent, the warehouse space by 90 percent and the personnel by nearly 30 percent. Almost all of the present equipment of the natural oil industry was completed after liberation.

BUT these achievements will not satisfy new China. A model showing the future development of the Northwest attracted a great deal of attention from visitors. It showed the establishment of great industrial centers in Kansu, Chinghai and Sinkiang, vast areas which have long been considered wastelands.

Already, a large number of technicians and workers have been carrying out the preliminary steps for the development of these areas. Geologists have trudged across mountains and wilderness, braving temperatures of 30 below; experts have come from China's great neighbor, the Soviet Union; workers are contributing their creative labor; engineers are devising technical improvements; and college students of engineering have come from Peking, Tientsin and other cities to work in the oil fields.

A series of graphs and pictures demonstrated the radical change that has occurred in China's oil industry as compared with pre-liberation days, when the imperialist oil merchants crowded by the hundred into Chinese cities. They monopolized the oil business of China for several decades, milking the Chinese people and strangling China's own oil industry.

During the 42 years from 1905 to 1949 (excluding three years after the outbreak of the Anti-Japanese war), oil was imported from imperialist countries to the value of nearly US$3,280,000,000, equivalent to more than 29,000,000 tons of grain.

However, since the people's government took over control of American enterprises in China and the British-owned Shell Company, the imperialist monopoly of the oil trade has gone forever.

In place of foreign oil companies and imported oil, the Chinese people now have their own petroleum corporation and oil from their own oil fields. The achievements of new China's oil industry in the past two years utterly refute the allegations of imperialist "scientists" that China is an oil-poor country, and point the way toward greater victories on the oil production front.

# KMT Troops Use

**The US State and Defense departments have been working overtime setting the stage for open aggression in China and Southeast Asia. Washington denials to the contrary, there is evidence aplenty that the US has been using Kuomintang troops for new aggressive acts against China.**

NEW *YORK HERALD* TRIBUNE correspondent Homer Bigart divulged something of America's "defensive" plans for Asia when he wrote from Saigon on January 4, 1951, that there was growing awareness among American officials that the US must abandon "textbook conceptions," promote "underground warfare by arming all anti-Communist groups," and exploit "techniques of terror whenever terror yields political advantage."

A LOOK at the published record since then shows:

June 25: The *New York Times* quoted Senator John Sparkman, US delegate to the UN, as saying that American aid to Kuomintang "guerillas" in China is "not something to be talked about too much." He said, however, "Don't assume we are not doing anything. That aspect is not being neglected."

July 27: Rangoon dispatches reported that KMT troops, under General Li Mi, had invaded Yunnan province from their base in Burma. Their number was estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000. An *AP* correspondent reported that "Burmese officials said Li's troops were re-equipped from sources in Thailand," and that, "despite repeated denials of American officials here, there is a belief among Burmese that the US is aiding Li." At the same time, Burmese officials announced they had tried unsuccessfully to drive Li's forces out of Burma, that they had asked the US to use its "good offices" to secure the disbandment of Li's army, and that they have weighed taking the issue to the UN.

July 31: Radio Peking announced that Li's forces had been defeated and reduced to remnants.

August 5: The *New York Times*, reporting from Singapore, quoted British sources as saying that Li's troops

# n Raids on China

are "trying to filter back across the border into Burma under heavy pressure."

August 8: The *New York Times* correspondent in Saigon cabled that "the French here are of the opinion that the US has played an important role, through the Central Intelligence Agency, in the Chinese Nationalist [Kuomintang] move out of Burma.

October 21: General Collins, US Army Chief of Staff, flew to Bangkok for conferences with Thailand Premier Songgram and Brigadier-General Cole, head of the US military mission supervising the expansion and re-equipment of the Thai army.

October 26: Collins flew to Taiwan to confer with Major-General Chase, a former MacArthur subordinate, now heading the US military mission aiding Chiang on Taiwan. Meanwhile, the KMT Charge d'Affaires in Thailand and Consul-general in Bangkok arrived in Taiwan a few days later to join in the talks.

November 28: The Bangkok paper *Chuan Min Pao* reported that a US technical aid group recently surveyed the strategic highway between Lampang and Chiengrai, a north Thailand town connected by road with Li Mi's base in Kengtung, Burma.

December 1: The Burmese government reported that 50,000 KMT troops were operating on the Sino-Burma border and that it would undertake to disarm and intern them.

December 26: *Hsinhua,* in a Peking dispatch, accused the US of transporting KMT troops from Taiwan to Thailand and the northern part of Burma and conspiring to "carry out large-scale disturbances" on the Chinese border. The US State Department issued an official denial.

December 31: *AP* reported from Taiwan that General Chase publicly mentioned for the first time the possibility that the US and KMT "would work as a team . . . whether it be on this island or in other troubled areas."

January 3: Official Washington denials became stronger after Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky told the UN Assembly meeting in Paris that the US was ferrying troops from Taiwan, as well as supporting KMT agents in the frontier areas of Burma, Thailand, Viet-Nam and China's southwest province of Yunnan.

January 7: The *New York Herald-Tribune*, commenting on Vishinsky's charges in Paris stated: ". . . there may well be areas in Southeast Asia where divisions from the army on Formosa [Taiwan] could serve as vital reinforcements. Certainly Mr. Vishinsky should not be permitted to exercise a veto over such deployment. What is required is agreement between the Chinese Nationalists [KMT] and the authorities of the areas where these troops might serve; and also agreement with the US, which would have to undertake the main task of transportation . . ."

January 24: The Washington correspondent of the London *Daily Express* reported that US pilots were flying in arms to KMT troops on the Burma-China border, which were estimated at 25,000.

January 25: *UP* reported from Taiwan that meetings had taken place between US land, naval and air force commanders with KMT military men. Speculation was rife on "releasing the armed forces of all branches [of the KMT army] for action in whatever theater of action the Reds might decide along China's southern borders," *UP* stated.

January 29: Soviet UN delegate Jacob Malik charged that two American generals were commanding KMT troops in Burma. He also stated that seven US colonels and 27 majors were attached to the KMT troops which have taken refuge in Burma, after having been chased out of China in late 1949.

January 30: *Hsinhua* quoted Rangoon reports which revealed that contingents of US-officered KMT troops were being sent through Thailand to Kengtung in Burma daily to join detachments under Li Mi.

The *Bangkok Post,* in a story from London quoting an official Burmese representative, said that KMT troops were continually passing through Thailand along the highway leading to Kengtung to replenish detachments there. The Burmese spokesman said that 10,000 of the remnant KMT troops were making use of Kengtung as their base of operations.

# Welfare Work in Changsha

### . . . Sophia Chang

LIBERATION has brought many new ideas and changes to the people of Changsha. In the field of welfare work, developments have been tremendous.

Before liberation, Changsha, the capital of Hunan province, was completely in the hands of the imperialists and their henchmen, the Kuomintang reactionaries, the bureaucratic capitalists and the landlords. Although these elements fattened off the people and made direct profits out of the widespread poverty, they sometimes made a show at concern for the poor. They sponsored different welfare projects and used charity to fool the people and thus reduce the tension between the few haves and the many have-nots.

I came to this city in 1937 right after graduation from college, and since then, except for the period of Japanese occupation and another two years abroad, I have lived here and have had ample opportunities to participate in welfare work. Looking back now, I realize that many times I was utilized by the ruling clique to help in projects that would ease the conflicts between them and the struggling poor people.

There were many others like me who worked with the best intentions in different relief agencies, but our efforts never got to the root of the social maladjustments in our society.

IN the past, China was the dumping ground for surplus American goods which greatly obstructed the development of domestic industry, while China's raw materials were bought up dirt cheap. In coordination with their economic invasion of China, the imperialists always encouraged internal conflicts.

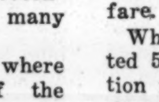
As the tools of the foreign aggressors, the bureaucrats and the reactionaries were intent upon getting their "share." Taxes were sky high, squeeze was everywhere, and the economy was in a state of utter chaos. All this had its effect on the general welfare, and more and more families fell into dire need.

To sweeten the bitter KMT pill, there were feeble attempts at welfare work. During the war, the National Relief Commission, the Provincial Government, and the Ministry of Social Affairs sponsored the evacuation of refugees from the city. After the war CNRRA, the KMT Chinese organization working with UNRRA, acted as an agency to rehabilitate the refugees through so-called "emergency relief" from which government bureaucrats made many a killing.

In the countryside, where the vast majority of the peasants waged an uphill battle to eke out a living, now and then a rich landlord turned philanthropist would contribute some rice to the community rice house from which the poor could borrow. In this way, other relief institutes such as a nursery, an orphanage, a home for widows, a home for reformed women, and so forth were set up. However, even in these institutions those being cared for often failed to get enough to eat. In fact, a few rich landlords usually managed to grab control of the administration of such projects and further lined their pockets by squeezing relief monies, etc.

I HAVE presented a rough picture of the dichotomy of producing maladjustment on a large scale and mending it in a half-hearted and corrupt manner in the old days. If social welfare is a term which denotes a satisfactory state, good health, prosperity, well-being, happiness and comfort of society, it was clear that the people, except for a small minority of compradores, landlords and bureaucrats, were deprived of such welfare.

When Changsha was liberated 52 percent of the population needed relief although at that time there were about 30 relief agencies in the city. Because of the complete currency collapse in the last days of the Chiang regime, purchasing power in the city was almost nil. Unemployment and poverty were at every hand. About 20,000 hungry and helpless peasants had swarmed into the city from the suburbs and neighboring *hsien* seeking relief. The streets were full of beggars.



Since liberation the people's government has done its best to heal the city's wounds.

From an immediate point of view, the government has carried out mass movements to relieve the distress of the unemployed, to reform beggars, to repatriate refugees and to organize collective production. From a long-range point of view, the government has tackled the task of changing this one-time city of consumers into a productive, economically sound center.

On August 17 of last year the Preparatory Committee of the Changsha Branch of the Chinese People's Relief Organization was established. The following are some of the welfare activities which have been developed after liberation:

1) **Aid to unemployed workers**—The Unemployed Workers' Relief Committee was set up in July 1950. Up to September of last year, 20,815 workers, including teachers, accountants and statisticians, were registered, interviewed and processed. Of these, 12,170 were helped to find jobs. Work relief and cash were extended to 1,759 in order to solve their problems temporarily. Generally speaking, emergency relief was given to those who were not employed. By the end of 1951 all technical workers and laborers had jobs.

2) **Reform of beggars**—Since December 1949, the people's government of Changsha has looked after 4,137 beggars. They have all been given time to relate their personal histories and helped to analyze why they were forced to become beggars in the old society.

One thousand two hundred and fifty-one had homes in the country to which they were returned and where they now are engaged in productive farm labor. Seven hundred able-bodied professional male beggars were organized into groups doing manual labor such as repairing the city's sewage system, transport work, making bricks, rebuilding roads, and so forth. More than 400 women and children have been taught sewing, how to make shoes, rope and match boxes. For this they earned wages while training in the institution to reform beggars. Another 128 one-time beggars were placed in regular jobs.

3) **Displacement of non-Changsha refugees** — More than 10,000 refugees from outside the city were returned to their homes by the government. Since December 1949, nearly ¥300,000,000 was spent on the project entailing travelling expenses and aid to the

returned refugees in getting started on productive work. Repatriation centers have helped 66,453 KMT prisoners of war and 16,942 refugees and students to return to their native places.

4) **Relief to paupers and refugees**—According to an investigation made in April 1950, aside from unemployed workers, 25,000 people in Changsha were living on the marginal line of subsistence. The government gave emergency relief to the aged and disabled, and also to those families which could not live on their meager incomes.

5) **Unification and coordination of relief agencies**—On March 1, 1951, a unified welfare institute was established. There are more than 10,000 persons in this institute's work projects such as cooperative shoe and sheet factories, and 2,270 are engaged in relief projects or in productive projects. Relief projects consist of a home for the disabled and aged, a nursery, and a center for receiving beggars. Productive projects include brick making, weaving and dyeing, flour making, etc.

Such a line of development reveals the general shift from charity to public welfare, from age-old family relief to organized community relief, and from emergency relief to productive training.

It is worth noting that at the time of liberation almost all of Changsha's charity and relief agencies were at a standstill. The people's government immediately took over a few of the agencies which had no means of supporting their clients. At the same time, registration of all relief organizations took place, thus providing a clear picture of relief facilities.

FROM this bird's-eye view of welfare work done since liberation, in contrast to the former charity tokens and sugar-coated poison used to mislead the exploited victims of the ruling class, it can be seen that the sum effect and strength of social welfare activities in a community depends greatly on its social system, economic order and political organization.

The total cultural configuration of the past was made to function for the welfare of a few and to neglect the interests and well-being of the vast majority. Therefore, social and personal maladjustments constantly grew more numerous. The previous society was a complete failure and only under our new government could the former corrupt configuration be smashed. Today we are on the right road, working toward social betterment and social health.

*London Letter*

# Sino-British Friendship

**Robert Westgate**

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THE Pentagon had many things in mind when it unleashed aggression across the 38th Parallel in June, 1950, but among the most obvious were to prevent the unification of Korea under a democratic people's government, to seize Taiwan and to prepare for an eventual attack on new China.

Faced with British recognition of the fact of the people's victory in China—an astutely timed move by the Foreign Office to forestall mass popular demands for a break with the Kuomintang remnants—the American policy makers were determined that such a crucial East-West rapprochement should go no further. And indeed it has gone no further; in fact the Churchill government has already retreated from the position that the Attlee administration so timidly held.

But the unalterable fact remains that every new British surrender to US demands in the Far East serves only to intensify contradictions between the two rival imperialisms; superficial "harmony" can be achieved only at the expense of worsening deep conflicts of interest. Nothing more strikingly illustrates this than the whole question of British-Chinese relations.

The simple fact of British recognition of the Central People's Government is not the important thing; the important thing is the motive force of British policy which compelled recognition. There is no justification for any misunderstanding on this point because British official spokesmen at the time recognition was accorded went out of their way to insult the Central People's Government by emphasizing that His Majesty's Government had neither love nor respect for it.

Thus there was a perfectly clear case of the British government taking an action it deemed to be in its own interests and, at the same time, emphasizing that it was influenced by no consideration but that of self-interest. Accordingly, to withdraw recognition is only to deal another blow against the interests that Britain wants to further. This, of course, is precisely the course that American imperialism follows to achieve "harmony" with its satellites.

It is small wonder then that no sooner had Prime Minister Churchill returned from his Washington visit last January than it became manifest that Anglo-American differences over China were basically sharper than ever. Mr. Churchill was quickly reminded that the British people have no vested interest in Chiang Kai-shek and that the eternally discredited and passionately despised Kuomintang can never be "sold" to the labor movement.

Meanwhile, in spite of the British government's hostility to the Central People's Government (unmistakably illustrated by the increased persecution of Hongkong Chinese while Churchill was actually in America) and its continuing subservience to America, there is growing friendship among the British people for the people of China.

The main factor in this development is the Britain-China Friendship Assocation which was formed in December 1949, and which in the course of two years has made an outstanding contribution to the cause of peace, trade and friendship with new China. The association draws its main support from the trade union movement and its influence in the labor movement generally is constantly growing. Prominent among its 400,000-strong trade union affiliations are the Electrical Trades Union, the Scottish Mineworkers' Union and the Fire Brigades Union. Also affiliated are the Communist Party and the Socalist Medical Association. Individual members of the organization include people of all political parties, intellectuals and the representatives of many churches.

The association has been active in mobilizing large numbers of people all over the country against American aggression in the Far East generally and has exerted important influence in awakening all sections of the trade union and labor movement to the dangers to world peace resulting from American action in Taiwan, Viet-Nam and Japan.

Some idea of the scale on which the association is working in the interests of peace, trade and friendship with China can be gained from the fact that during 1951 it sponsored no less than 350 meetings.

Apart from London, branches of the association have been established in cities such as Cambridge, Nottingham, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham. Two films, "Daughters of China" and "Liberated China" have played a tremendous part in the association's work to promote friendship with China and understanding between the peoples of China and Britain. In six months last year there were between 50 and 60 showings of the films and audiences who saw them numbered many thousands.

Delegations have been exchanged between the two countries, the first from new China having attended the National Day celebration organized by the association in London in 1950. Led by Liu Ning-yi, vice-president of the All-China Federation of Labor, it visited many cities and towns in Britain and was able to judge at first hand the warmth, goodwill and respect that the mass of the British people have for the Chinese people.

Owing to the refusal of a visa by the British government to the leader, Li Yi-meng, a delegation invited to attend the annual conference of the Britain-China Friendship Association in April, 1951, was prevented from coming to Britain. From Britain, a delegation of 11 trade unionists went to China last April and the secretary of the association, Mr. J. Dribbon, was British delegate to the National Day celebration in October.

Indicative of the keen cultural interest in new China is the growing field of activity of a cultural and scientific committee of the Britain-China Friendship Association. A series of lectures at present being organized by the committee covers science, the arts and literature in China, Chinese architecture, music and philosophy. Members of the committee include such prominent figures in Britain as Dr. Joseph Needham, head of the British Scientific Mission in China from 1942 to 1946, Professor Lionel S. Penrose, professor of eugenics at London University College, and Mr. William Watson, of the Department of Oriental Antiques, British Museum.

The outstanding fact which has emerged from the two years of the association's existence is that the strong and growing desire on the part of the British working people for real friendship with the people of the China that has stood up is something which no British government can destroy. It has been proved, too, that this desire becomes stronger as every vital British interest in peaceful trade and commerce with China is challenged by America's policy of war against the Chinese people.

Any deal that Churchill concludes with Truman, or any "commitment" that he accepts at the command of the State Department will be nullified by an unshakeable conviction of the people in this country that only the enemies of both countries could benefit from hostility between the Chinese and British peoples.

Women bus drivers in Peking

# New Role for Women

On March 8, International Women's Day, China's women can with justifiable pride look back on the tremendous progress they have made in the less than three years since the establishment of the people's government. Not only have they made substantial gains in political, economic and social fields but they have laid the groundwork for greater progress to come.

For the first time in China's history, women have gained recognition as equal members of society. No longer are they relegated to second-class citizenship by law and custom. They have the same political rights as their menfolk. They receive equal pay for equal work, while their social position today is incomparably better than under the Kuomintang and other previous regimes.

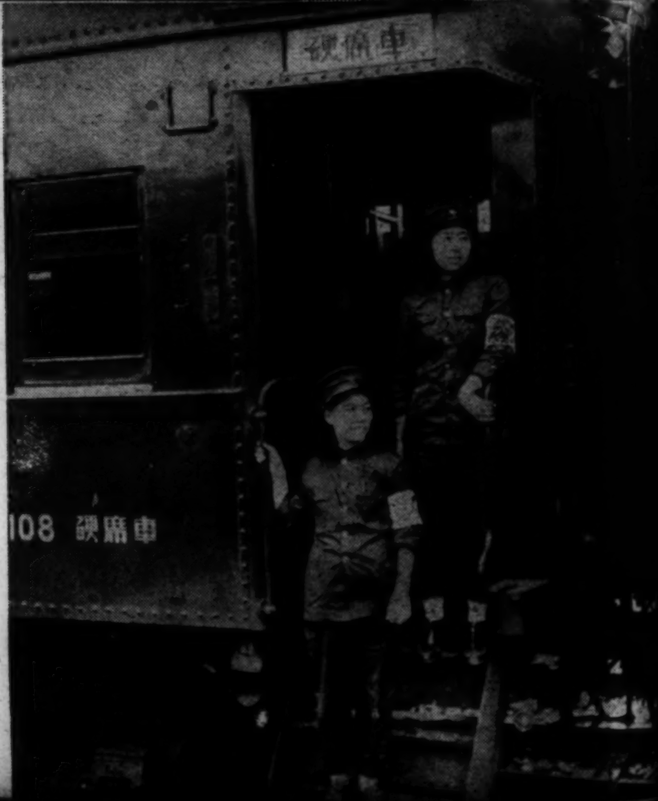
Of course, the effects of centuries of subjection cannot be erased overnight. While the marriage law, for instance, has brought a new life to tens of thousands of women who were virtually household slaves, many are still forced to struggle against reactionary husbands, and fathers who are not willing to forego their feudal prerogatives without a fight.

Likewise, the ignorance, superstitions and illiteracy of millions of women, deliberately fostered by the old feudal society, cannot be wiped out in so short a time.

However, the old prejudices of the men have been so weakened and the progress of the women themselves has been so marked that it is possible to look forward to the not-too-distant day when China's women will be completely emancipated and able to assume their rightful position as full, equal partners in the task of building the new China.

Woman worker in Shanghai textile mill applying new working method which increases efficiency.

Women of Linping, Chekiang, celebrating successful conclusion of the Peasants' Representatives' Conference



Women health workers are now in attendance on all trains

Veteran women workers learning to read and write in factory school.

Chinese women volunteers at the Korean front.

Girls being trained as mechanics in Peking bus garage.

# NOTES FROM A PO

THE creative ability of the men in our hospital in this POW camp in North Korea is a constant source of amazement. I remember when Peter F. Rowley, working with his makeshift tin oven, baked his first cake. The entire operation was closely watched by John Holberton, an 8th Hussars sergeant, and Pfc. Loren Bryant, who comes from the same town as Truman—Independence, Missouri. Both men couldn't help from crying out, "Great!" when Peter proudly produced his cake.

A few days earlier, Peter had successfully turned out a roast chicken stuffed with salt, pepper, onions, garlic, bread crumbs and other trimmings in the tin oven which he made himself. At the time, Christmas was not far off and we had been talking about Christmas cake but no oven was available. So Rowley, who is always ready to make anything, built one out of tin he salvaged from a nearby rubbish heap. Christmas and Christmas cake have come and gone and Rowley's oven has gained fame throughout the camp. Everyone in the hospital refers to it as "Peter's Bakery."

Ability to create is not restricted to Peter Rowley. Almost all the POW's here have a genius of their own. Their hands are deft and skilful, and it is not unusual to find a POW using a razor blade to whittle a branch of a tree into a pipe or sculpturing a piece of wood into a diminutive image. Playing cards are cut from cigarette boxes and rubbed with soap to increase their durability.

We have had many opportunities to admire the drawings made by the men. They draw on anything, a piece of paper, a piece of cloth, a cap or a coat. They draw flags, soldiers and, of course, endless pictures of women. They draw wonderfully well and it seems as if many are born artists. There is John Holberton, for example, whose slender hand can create a fine Christmas card. A few days before Christmas we issued drawing paper on which the men could make cards to send to their buddies. John asked me for crayons, ink, tinfoil from old cigarette packages and some gauze bandage. Using these and a pair of scissors, he produced a lovely card. The whole thing was an exact duplicate of a professionally made Christ-

# OSPITAL IN KOREA

mas card. However, this was done by a man's hands and not by a machine.

Then there is left-handed Sergeant Brisland who surprised his audience at the POW's Christmas show by producing a series of pictures with a piece of charcoal in less than 20 minutes. You can draw a straight or a curved line any way you please but he is always able to turn it into a complete picture in less than a minute.

IN addition to such pursuits, these men in the hospital are constantly thinking about food, present and future. They delight in guessing what dish will be featured at the next meal, sometimes arguing with one another as to which method is the best for preparing food. A split has taken place in their ranks. Some of the POW's have become convinced that Chinese style food is more varied and tasty while their op-

A group of POW patients of the General Hospital playing cards in the morning sun on the steps in front of the hospital. This is the general hospital for all POW camps in Korea.

the
VOLUNTEERS

ponents insist that Western style is better. The result has been many verbal battles. One duel became so loud and heated that we were forced to put into effect the rule of no talking after lights out at nine.

During the day the patients, in addition to pursuing their hobbies, have magazines and newspapers from the US and Britain to read. They also play cards, checkers and chess, all of which helps them while away the time during daylight. However, it is natural that thoughts turn to home. This is especially true at night when the men congregate on the hospital porch overlooking the valley below. Then they lose themselves in reminiscences of home.

Some men converse among themselves of life at home, others like to gaze into the distance and hum songs to the accompaniment of a harmonica. Many times I have been touched by the sight of these men, under a full moon, staring into the sky, blowing rings of smoke from cigarettes and pipes and lost in thoughts of dear ones so far away. They look at the vast expanse of sky, somewhere below it are their homes, and in their imaginations I am sure they are spirited off to the ones they love.

By eight o'clock all but the ones who are practically recovered are in bed. Then, talk is at fever pitch, about any subject. A favorite is the game "truth and consequences." This amuses the men greatly and amidst clouds of cigarette smoke they ask each other all sorts of questions. The game gets so intense that at times, after nine when I am on duty, I have to go into the wards and ask them to stop.

EVERYBODY looks forward to the weekly Saturday night party. The men have formed a Recreation Committee and each ward has its representative. Early Saturday afternoon the chairman comes to our office and gives us a list of the things needed for the party, including prizes for different contests. Frequently we are requested to invite some of our comrades to join in or to sing a song for the men. Once they asked me for two comrades to take part in a pear-rolling contest. The contestants had to crawl on all fours, using their noses to push pears over the required distance. The musicians at these affairs always get a rousing demand for encores.

Life for the men here is a quiet one and we try to give them as much enjoyment as possible. Still, the men in the ospital have two chief desires: to get well and to return ome.

Last July, when the peace talks opened, our patients had igh hopes which eventually turned into disappointment. The lks, which have been dragged on for so many months by e Americans, now seem to hold little interest for the men. hey are still praying for an early peace but they don't expect as much as they did at the beginning. For months patients ave come and gone, and for months life has gone on in this ay. It will continue so until real peace comes.

— *H. C. HUANG*

Dr. H. C. Huang (left), riter of the accompanying ticle, with Peter F. Rowley ight), who made the hospital itchen's tin oven. Rowley, a rmer patient, is from New arnet, Herts, England.

Chinese volunteer nurse giving morning wash to a POW patient in a camp hospital. Many prisoners have written letters home telling of excellent care they receive in hospitals from Chinese doctors and nurses.

# America's POW Hoax

THE huge hoax, perpetrated by the US miltary command in Korea, that Chinese and Korean prisoners of war are unwilling to return to their homelands has been bared in the American press. Reports give some account of the wide-scale resistance of POW's to the reign of terror, torture and intimidation going on in US camps for prisoners.

On January 21 a *UP* correspondent reported: "Eight camp commanders in 12 months, working behind a wall of official silence to create order in barbed wire compounds, have failed to solve what officials call the thorniest prison administration problem of modern times. 'Each compound seethes with intrigue—half the prisoners figuring ways to escape...' Lieutenant-colonel Joseph Moran, camp executive officer, said, 'Killings? Plenty of them' . . . Officials have not disclosed the number killed in riots or escape attempts."

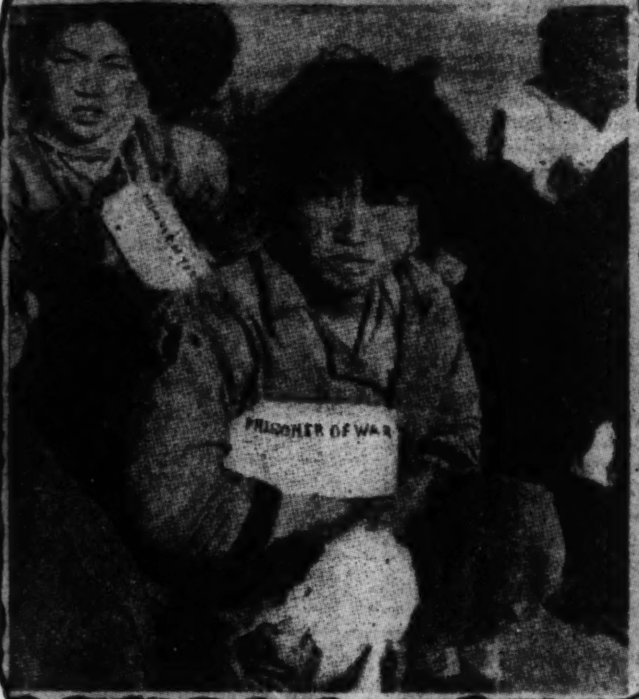
One of the duties of the POW's according to *UP*, is to attend "information and education lectures given by American officers or Chinese Nationalist [Kuomintang] instructors." Commenting on this program of indoctrination aimed at turning prisoners over to Chiang Kai-shek and Syngman Rhee, the correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor* revealed that " . . . the majority does not appear to be vividly impressed."

American press reports have stated that POW's are tatooed with anti-Communist slogans, some even in English. This attempt to prove that Chinese and Korean prisoners "love" Chiang and Rhee was vigorously denounced at the peace negotiations meeting of January 22 by Korean General Li Sang Cho. He said:

"The fact that hundreds of instructors had been brought from Taiwan to American POW camps, and were forcing prisoners to join a so-called 'Anti-Communist National Salvation Corps,' and the fact that prisoners were being tattooed with anti-Communist slogans was evidence enough of the real meaning of the American 'free choice' and 'voluntary repatriation.'"

Hongkong Standard

## Pint-Sized POWs



The above photo, reproduced from the January 19, 1952 issue of the *Hongkong Standard,* bore the following caption: "Allied troops, cleaning up Communist guerillas behind the front lines capture the Red and sometimes his family as well. The children shown here were brought down from Mt. Chirisan in Korea by elements of the Republic of Korea Capitol Division—NEA."

*A Short Story by Chong Shen*

# Family Quarrel

IN the old days, the cruel and chaotic nature of society was reason enough for household quarrels, particularly among those who were forced to eke out a hand-to-mouth existence. The fact that prices were so inflated that they rose by the hour caused many a housewife to fly into a temper.

The situation in the countryside was even worse than in the city for here the landlords, through long centuries of practice, had a thousand and one ways to cheat the peasants.

From dawn to dusk the peasant and his wife pulled a long face since the greater portion of their crops would be snatched from them through such tricks as the crooked scales the landlords used when they came around to collect their share at harvest time. The accuracy of the scales could not be questioned since the landlords would be accompanied by armed guards provided by the local authorities.

* * *

ALTHOUGH one cannot say that liberation has put an end to quarrels between husband and wife, one can say that they certainly take a different form from the old days.

For example, there is the story of a young married couple in the town of Chien Yu Chun, about 50 miles outside of Shanghai. The family consists of a 26-year-old husband, Hsu Ah-ken, his wife Chin-pao, age 23, and their three-year old son, Yu-fu. Not only did liberation free them from the grip of an exploiting landlord but the recent land reform has given them nine *mou* of land, enough to guarantee a decent living.

One day, while Chin-pao was sewing a cotton-padded jacket for Yu-Fu, her husband came home humming a song popular all over the countryside at the time of land reform: "The landlord does not work, but his warehouse is packed full of white rice." Ah-ken was in a jolly mood and, as he sang, he said to his wife, "A night school is starting in the village tonight and I'm going down to enroll."

"Really .... I've been talking about it with the girl next door and we both decided to go to class together," Chin-pao said.

"No, you stay home. I'll teach you everything I learn at the night school. I guarantee that I'll make a good teacher and will teach you whatever I study."

"Why should you teach me? I can just as well teach you what I learn. Besides, I'm sure I'll be a better pupil than you," Chin-pao argued back.

Hearing this, the husband became excited and raised his voice, "If you go to school who's going to look after the kid? You mustn't go."

"What do you mean? The child belongs to both of us. Is there any law that says a mother must look after her child when she has a literacy class to go to?" Chin-pao was beginning to lose her temper as she took up her defense.

"Of course, a mother is supposed to stay home and look after the kids," Ah-ken insisted.

"Don't you know that we women have been liberated? You're still full of feudal ideas about marriage. How dare you still have such contempt for women! Let's go to the Women's Association and straighten it all out." Chin-pao was getting bolder and with this strong statement she went up to her husband and grabbed him by the collar.

Ah-ken was angry, and having her take hold of him in this way exhausted his patience. "This woman is beyond me now," he told himself as he stood there in embarrassment. "All right, let's go. But let's go to the Peasants' Association to fix the thing up."

"No, I'm going to the Women's Association."

Grabbing each other, the two of them went out the door. By this time they had made so much noise that they woke their three-year old, who was left behind yelling and crying. At the same time, their next door neighbor, Aunty Wang, had come over to see what the big row was all about.

The old lady was not without experience and it was a common thing to see young married couples quarrel. In the past few years that Ah-ken and Chin-pao had been married, Aunty Wang had seen them quarrel many times, but it had only been a matter of a few unpleasant words and an argument. She had never seen the two of them grabbing at each other the way they were doing this time.

Rushing up to the couple, Aunty Wang stopped them as they were in the midst of trying to drag one another off in different directions.

"What's the matter with you two? Ever since the Communists came everybody's been enjoying a good life and peace. I know under the KMT when people couldn't get enough to feed their families there was plenty of cause for quarrel, but now the harvest has been a good one and there are no landlords to exploit us. We should all be satisfied. Now stop this nonsense!"

Aunty Wang had a certain amount of prestige and it was quite common for people to go to her for advice. Hearing her words, the husband and wife stopped quarreling and shoving each other. What she had just told them was reasonable and they knew it. They both realized that it wasn't very nice to put on such a show in front of the large crowd which was already gathering about them. Both Ah-ken and Chin-pao regretted that they had not gone to the old woman for advice in the first place. Now both were so out of breath from their dispute they were unable to say a word for nearly a minute.

"Aunty Wang," Chin-pao began, pointing to Ah-ken, "He still looks down on women. He doesn't want me to go to the night school because he says I have to look after our baby."

"Don't listen to her, Aunty. I asked her to please look after the kid and the house but I promised to teach her what I learn at the school...."

Hearing the cause of the quarrel, Aunty Wang couldn't help bursting into loud laughter. "So you two youngsters were fighting for the chance to go to night school. Why didn't you tell me all this? Well, you both can go tonight."

As the old lady paused, both Ah-ken and Chin-pao looked at her with great surprise.

"Look here you two, Sister-in-law Li who lives in the north end of the village just came to see me. She's been having the same trouble, but she's going to go to school tonight. I'll look after her child, and you two can leave Yu-fu with me."

Aunty Wang's voluntary help not only turned the couple's glares into smiles but also enabled both of them to start schooling the same evening. As one of the village elders remarked as the crowd melted away, "Just a few years ago who would have imagined husband and wife arguing over going to school."

# Peasant Gains in Viet-Nam

### K. C. Chang

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FOLLOWING its successes in 1951, the liberation struggle of the people of Viet-Nam continues to move forward to the day when the French colonialists and their US masters are completely driven out of the country. The disintegration of the French position in Viet-Nam can be clearly seen from their ever-increasing dependence on Washington money and equipment.

The liberation movement in this one-time French colony includes all strata of the people with the exception of a handful of native collaborators. It is the united front movement which has made the French pay so dearly ever since they tried to snatch back their colony after VJ Day.

Having proved themselves in their solitary fight against the Japanese, the Viet-Namese, under Ho Chi Minh's leadership, formed the Provisional government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam on September 2, 1945. The government was based on a solid alliance of workers and peasants and supported by all democratic forces in the country. However, the French were in no mood to see the riches of Viet-Nam slip out of their hands. Simultaneously with the republic's plans for peaceful reconstruction and the draft of a democratic constitution, the French, backed by British arms, unleashed an attack on Saigon on September 23, 1945.

This was the beginning of the armed struggle which, based on the trend of the battle in the past six years, is destined to end in the complete defeat of the French, despite all the US aid they receive. Before the end of 1949 more than 90 percent of all the territory of Viet-Nam and 80 percent of the population had been liberated. Since the borderland victory of the Viet-Nam liberation forces in the autumn of 1950 up to the beginning of this year, the Viet-Nam People's Army launched five successive offensives and knocked out more than 38,000 enemy troops.

Unable to stop the Viet-Nam people's liberation movement through the French, the Truman government has begun to threaten "UN action" if "Chinese Communist forces" enter the Viet-Nam battle. The fact that the Viet-Nam people are continuing to defeat the French without outside aid is blatantly overlooked by Washington in the latest US propaganda drive in preparation for new aggression in Asia.

Although the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam was dealing smashing blows against French colonialism long before the Chinese people and their People's Liberation Army threw Chiang Kai-shek out of China, the Americans today are raising the false cry of "Communist intervention" and are openly hinting at turning Viet-Nam into a second Korea.

AS in the struggle of colonial peoples all over Asia for liberation, the land is a primary factor in the fight against imperialism. For decades in Viet-Nam, the French and their lackeys trampled on the peasants, who make up 90 percent of the population. Since the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam in 1945 concrete steps have been taken to break the hold of the imperialists and feudalists over the peasants.

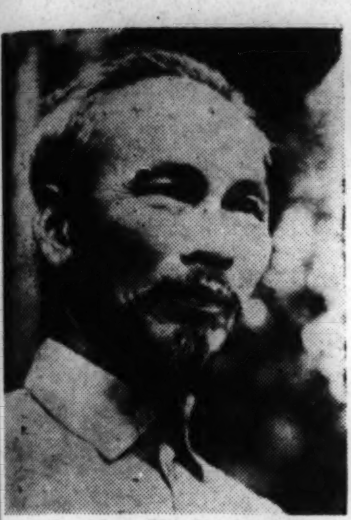
The agrarian policy of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam is part of the basic task of the Viet-Nam revolution, which in its present stage is to resist and fight back against foreign imperialism.

Before the revolution, 40 percent of the peasants were landless. A high degree of concentration of land in Viet-Nam was a dominant feature under French rule. Frenchmen held the biggest rice growing estates. A handful of French landlords, 705 persons, owned 377,000 hectares of the best rice growing area in Viet-Nam. Some French estates reached the colossal size of 45,000 hectares.

During the early days of their conquest in the latter half of the 19th century, the French took advantage of the flight of the peasants to seize their lands. Later the Bank of Indo-China took over land through mortgages. During the 1929-31 economic crisis Viet-Namese landlords who were unable to pay their debts to the bank had to give up their lands. The Catholic Church, too, with the support of the French government, seized large areas. In Ninh-thuan province, for example, one-third of the arable land at one time belonged to a colonialist, Colonel Duval, while another third was owned by the Church.

The wholesale spoilation of the land resulted in the impoverishment of the large mass of the Viet-Nam peasantry. In addition, the French tried to preserve their hold through the use of a feudal land system which soon made the position of the peasants unbearable.

The peasants had to pay an average of half their crop as land rent. This did not include high interest rates on debts and feudal obligations such as



President Ho Chi Minh

corvees and gifts. According to "Utilisation du Sol en Indo-Chine," (published in 1937) a farm laborer in Thaibinh province in North Viet-Nam made only 76 piasters (approximately US$30) a year. Of this, he had to spend 55 percent on food. Taking into account years of bad harvest because of flood and the different taxes to be paid the colonial administration, the miserable plight of the peasants is not difficult to see.

As a result of the two-fold oppression by foreign imperialism and a rural feudal system, the peasants of Viet-Nam have always taken an active part in the struggle for national liberation and land. When the Communist Party of Indo-China proclaimed its program of "Land to the tiller," the peasant became the main force in the course of the early insurrections against the colonialists and their hirelings. Even before World War II, the Ngean movement enabled the peasants to set up Soviet rule in three districts of this area for three months.

The shameful French surrender and collaboration with the Japanese invaders during the war set the stage for a new phase in the revolution. Under the pressure of Japanese exploitation most of the landlords were victimized. The Japanese seized all the available rice in the country and in some places forced the population to grow jute instead. At the same time, the ignominious French capitulation resulted in a loss of prestige even in the eyes of the majority of the Viet-Namese landlords.

Under such conditions, the Viet-Minh Front, led by President Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party, proclaimed its agrarian policy of reducing land rent and debt interest with a view to rallying the entire people, including patriotic landlords, in the anti-French and anti-Japanese movement.

Since that time the agrarian policy of Viet-Nam has remained fundamentally unchanged. As pointed out in he platform of the Viet-Nam

Laodong Party, agrarian policy "at present aims at carrying out the reduction of land rent and interest."

In order to drive out imperialism, uproot feudalism, and lay the foundations of socialism the main task of the Viet-Nam revolution today is to fight against imperialist aggression. All other tasks serve this aim. The present and immediate enemies of the people of Viet-Nam are the French colonialists and the US interventionists who are responsible for the death and destruction taking place in Viet-Nam. In order to oppose them, the national liberation movement is concentrating all its forces and is closely uniting with all sections of the population from workers, peasants, petty-bourgeois, national bourgeois, to patriotic landlords.

AGRARIAN policy has to be carried out in such a way that it can, on one hand, bring a large number of the landlords over to the cause of the liberation movement or at least neutralize them instead of pushing them into the hands of the people's enemies. On the other hand, agrarian policy must make for the winning over of all those who have close relations with the landlords, particularly the intellectuals, most of whom belong to rich families.

In the present struggle being waged in Viet-Nam most of the landlords, like the whole population, fully realize that the enemy they must fight is the foreign land-grabber, the French and their chief supporter, the US government.

In Viet-Nam, except for a handful of big landlords, with property in the cities and money abroad, who have fled to French-occupied areas, the rest have remained in the liberated areas. In many landlords' families all the members are taking part in the liberation struggle, while the landlords themselves voluntarily contribute funds in the fight to drive out the French.

However, the agrarian policy during the present phase of the liberation is not aimed solely at winning over the majority of the landlords and isolating the imperialists. This policy also is intended to improve the living conditions of the peasants and to mobilize them to participate actively in armed resistance, and to increase farm output.

Among the more important benefits which have accrued to the peasants under the government's agrarian policy are:

**1) Reduction of land rent:** Immediately after its establishment in 1945 the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam issued a decree ordering the reduction of land rent by 25 percent. On July 14, 1949, President Ho Chi Minh ordered the abolition of all additional peasant obligations to the landlords such as corvées, gifts, etc.

**2) Reduction of interest:** On May 22, 1950, the government ordered the reduction of interest on loans in money to 18 percent and on loans in paddy to 20 percent. Previously, these interest rates had been 100 and 200 percent respectively. All debts on which the already paid interest amounted to twice the capital were abolished.

In order to make this order effective, the Production Credits Office of the government provides the peasants all facilities for obtaining loans so they do not have to borrow from the landlords.

**3) Provisional allocation of land formerly owned by the French colonialists and collaborationists to the poorer peasants and families of disabled ex-servicemen and war dead:** This is a reform of great importance because if the measure can be thoroughly carried out the slogan "Land to the tiller" will be put into practice. Nearly 5,000 hectares of land belonging to the French and their Viet-Nam lackeys in six northern provinces of North Viet-Nam have been allotted to 15,618 persons. About 40,000 hectares in liberated South Viet-Nam are in the process of distribution.

**4) Regulation of the land rent system:** This decree is aimed at restricting feudal exploitation and ensuring production. Previously, the landlords in some places tried to frustrate the order calling for land rent reduction. They either got the land back from their tenants and gave it to new tenants, or left it uncultivated.

The regulations now stipulate that landlords and tenants must sign contracts in which the period of tenancy (at least three years) as well as the rent rate must be mentioned. Landlords have no right to take back their land or increase their land rent at will. Land left uncultivated by landlords will be allotted to the poor peasants for temporary use. Land abandoned for a period exceeding five years will be nationalized.

The present agrarian policy is the first step in solving the age-old land problem. This is borne out by the overwhelming support of the people in the fight against French and American imperialism.

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# Education for Peasants

### Ho Tun-sun

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BECAUSE the peasants of Fukien have awakened to the necessity of education, the winter study movement has spread throughout the province. This winter, 1,500,000 peasants attended study classes, an enrolment two and a half times larger than that of last winter. The movement has had to overcome many difficulties.

Most of the difficulties arose from the backward attitude on the part of the peasants themselves toward education. They thought that education was for the young, not the old; for men, not for women; and for the leisure class, not for busy peasants. Thanks to the hard work of the government cadres, these mistaken ideas were changed.

In the tiny village of Si Ping, for example, everybody wanted to study. Although the village had only 18 households, the villagers engaged a teacher to keep school for the children in the daytime and teach the adults in the evening. Among the latter group were three peasants well over 50 years old, who attended classes regularly.

The government culture and education workers in every county began searching for teachers last October. For assistant teachers, 40,000 were chosen from among the better educated people in the countryside. Another 10,000, including Youth League members, peasant association cadres, and primary and middle school teachers on their winter vacation, were given a special two-week course in the method of teaching cultural and political classes for the people.

Although the training period was short, most studied very hard and later did a good job. One woman teacher, Hwong Sing Ing, determined to make a success of her winter school, kept up her study even on her sick bed. The teachers offered their services for evening classes without pay.

Finding a sufficient number of teachers filled with zeal to serve the people, was an easier task than raising the funds for necessary school expenses. The principle was to make the schools self-supporting, and the peasants used every possible means to get the funds, at the cost of much hard effort.

Lee Gao Li, a peasant of

Chang Lo county, said, "We think it is a glorious task to set up winter schools at our own expense. Our government needs all its money for economic construction and national defense. We shouldn't depend on the government for school funds, but raise the money ourselves."

The peasants raised the money by productive work, thus making gains on two fronts. They built roads, dredged canals, planted potatoes and caught fish. Individuals and groups made voluntary contributions, and many villagers cut down the expense of superstitious observances, using the money saved for the school. A peasant in one village figured out that the village had spent the equivalent of a ton of grain for the "Ghost Festival" on the 15th of the seventh lunar month — more than enough to run the winter school.

TO urge every illiterate peasant to avail himself of the opportunity to learn, wide publicity was carried out all over the province. Wall newspapers featured the winter schools, drum processions were held, and meetings were called.

One woman of 42, Cheng Ma Mei, told a meeting of the grief she had suffered because of illiteracy. Her story was made into an effective one-act play, whose performance moved audiences and excited their interest in study. Other short plays were produced as part of the mobilization.

Peasant women studying in a literacy class.

To meet the demands of the peasants, the winter school curriculum lays equal emphasis on cultural and political study. It includes simple Chinese, politics, reading of newspapers, the study of production experiences, health and hygiene and the new marriage law. Cultural recreation also has its place.

The provincial department of culture and education published 1,100,000 copies of textbooks for Foochow and neighboring counties, while other districts printed their own texts to suit local needs.

The peasants took up the campaign for attendance at winter schools in a wave of enthusiasm. At one meeting, a farm laborer said that he could not even read a simple road pass.

At the opening ceremony of one school, a 54-year-old woman pledged perfect attendance, no matter how bad the weather, and promised never to be late. The other students followed her example. Frequently, all the members of a family studied together at the school; but where some were too old, they got the younger ones to teach them. One man more than 60 years of age asked his daughter to teach him how to read and write.

The women were specially eager to study. One mother carried her two small children with her to school. Another woman went to every evening class with her old mother-in-law and her 12-year-old son.

To give publicity to current events and to teach scientific knowledge, lantern slides and movies played an important part in the winter school curriculum. The Min Hou county schools used slides to demonstrate how animal diseases could be prevented by inoculation, thus sweeping away the superstitious belief that animal diseases were caused by evil spirits, and helping the peasants to understand the importance of scientific prevention.

The peasants of Yu Chi county had always considered a certain worm, that was very injurious to growing rice, as protected by spirits. They thus suffered a great loss every year, but dared not kill the worms. Lantern slides helped to get rid of this superstition and to put an end to the pest.

Because of the effectiveness of lantern slides as a mass-education medium, approximately 400 showings are given a month, attended by more than 100,000 peasants. In addition, eight movie groups have toured the countryside, showing "The White-Haired Girl," "The Steel Fighter," "Resist America and Aid Korea," and other films. More than 350,000 peasants have seen these shows.

A new housing project for workers nears completion.

# BUILDING A NEW SHANGHAI

*Since liberation large-scale building and repair projects have continued at a rapid pace throughout this largest city of China. Left to rack and ruin under the Kuomintang, Shanghai's public services, such as roads and bridges, have been key points in the drive to renovate the city. Emphasis also has been placed on bringing much needed improvements to working class districts. Housing projects, running water, installation of sewer systems are all being provided in the previously neglected areas where working people live.*

**Above:** Road building and repairing goes on all over the city.

Athletics have become increasingly popular among all sections of the population since liberation. Schools, labor unions, private and official organizations all have athletic programs as part of the campaign to promote wholesome recreation and physical fitness. Large athletic meets in the

**Above:** Reconstructed Jukong Creek Bridge was opened to traffic on New Year's day.

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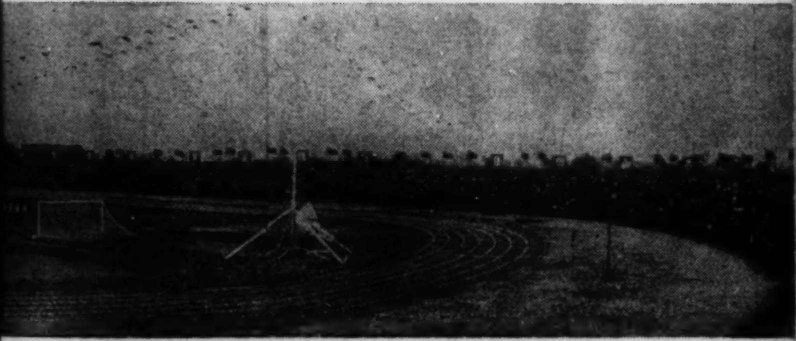

major cities are now regular events. Throughout the country, stadiums and playing fields are under construction. In Shanghai alone several recreation grounds have been and are being laid out. Photo shows the new soccer-football stadium, which seats 30,000, in Shanghai's Hongkew Park.

Above: Chungshan Road along the Whangpoo River is resurfaced.

Below: Sewer pipes being laid in a workers' residential district.

# Reform of Shanghai Markets

### Chih Fu-tse

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IN the past, the markets of Shanghai were under the control of racketeers. The merchants cheated the people by giving short weights, and the people were caught in the vise of the merchants' trickery and rapidly inflating prices. But after the people's government was established, these phenomena gradually disappeared. Stability of prices and better organization on the part of the sellers have changed markets from arenas of noisy squabbling and confusion to orderly places where the housewife can buy her daily necessities quickly, knowing that she will not be cheated.

Especially around the Lunar New Year season, the merchants used to take advantage of the increased demand for foodstuffs to raise prices exorbitantly. The people had to pay, or do without their traditional feasting. But a great change was seen this past New Year's. Prices of the vast quantities of foods, delicacies and general commodities remained stable.

A year ago, it was still necessary for the city government to urge both the public and the merchants to cooperate in keeping prices stable. But this year the merchants themselves offered to keep prices at their regular level, long before the Lunar New Year approached. In fact, most prices were even cut five or 10 percent; supplies were plentiful, and wholesalers did not want to tie up too much of their capital. By selling more at a lower profit, they benefit both themselves and the public.

The state-operated retail stores and cooperatives took the lead, before the New Year holidays, in offering all goods for sale at a five percent discount off regular prices. The demand was heavy, and these organizations sold several times more goods than during the same period last year.

At one of the Shanghai Native Products Corporation stores, the volume of business was double that of last year's. To take care of the rush of customers buying for the New Year, the store stayed open an hour and a half longer each day. The premises of another store were too small, so it moved, early in January, to the former Sun Sun department store, where it too served a great number of customers through the holidays.

The Charcoal and Fuel Merchants' Guild issued a list of wholesale and retail prices early in January, and representatives of trade union guilds and shopkeepers met in the North Station district. They unanimously decided to support the call of the government to keep prices stable. A committee of 57 supervisors was elected, and it was decided to ask the Women's Association to help by reporting any price hikes. Similar steps were taken by industrial and commerical groups in other districts. The shopkeepers of the Sungshan District, 3,400 in number, issued a statement on January 11 that they would not exploit the people by raising prices during the holidays. They also guaranteed to give good service to the public. A grocery shop in another district proposed that all shops post a list of prices in a conspicuous place.

Beginning on January 12, the government published a list of prices for 150 commodities, which had been agreed upon by the merchants and dealers of the various trades. The latter not only agreed to adhere to the set prices, but also to give correct weight and provide only fresh foods.

A newcomer would be astonished at the changes that have occurred in the formerly noisy, confused and dirty market places. Standard scales have been set up at the entrances, and the customer can check to make sure he gets what he has paid for, even though the formerly prevalent practice of cheating on weight has long since been almost eliminated.

The Stallkeepers' Union, for example, some time ago issued a regulation that anyone caught selling short weight would be fined 10 times the difference. Two months ago, a housewife who bought some pork pointed out to the stallkeeper that it was short two ounces in weight. She was astonished when she was given 20 ounces, and at first was reluctant to accept it, as it would mean a loss to the stallkeeper. But the union supervisors (elected from among their number by the stallkeepers themselves) insisted.

Before liberation, the markets were the city's dirtiest places; what was everybody's responsibility was nobody's, and the meat scraps and spoiled vegetables were simply kicked about. The only cleaning was done by the Public Works Bureau. But nowadays the Stallkeepers' Union sees to it that the market place is kept clean at all times.

With despotic gang rule and the protection racket eliminated, with honest weights and stable prices, the markets today are much better places, for both merchants and the public.

# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## Japan's "Defense Corps"

THE name for Japan's army is to be changed from "police reserve" to "defense corps." A *UP* dispatch from Tokyo on January 31 reported Prime Minister Yoshida's admission of this fact. For the first time a Japanese government official stated that the 75,000-man police force is something more than a "special police force."

Tokyo reports reveal that Japan plans to have a new army of its own within a year—encouraged and financed in large measure by the US. The immediate target is for an army of 200,000 to 300,000 before the end of the year.

It is estimated that arms and equipment for 10 Japanese divisions—of 20,000 men each—will cost at least US$200,000,000. Japan's own contribution will be limited to supplying wages, food, barracks, clothing and some light equipment and transport. The Yoshida government expects the US to meet most of the bill.

The nucleus of Japan's new army has long existed in the police reserve corps, a 75,000-man force organized by MacArthur in 1950. This corps has taken on more and more characteristics of a real army. Men enlist for two years, live in barracks and adhere to army routine. They have been trained with machine guns, bazookas and mortars—all furnished by the US—and are ready to receive 155-millimeter artillery pieces. They have been provided with armored cars, and training in tanks is in the offing.

Nearly half the officers and enlisted men in the police reserve are former members of the Japanese Army. In the last part of 1951, four hundred former lieutenant-colonels and majors were brought into the reserve, and more professional officers are to be taken into the organization to assume command of units and to fill staff positions. At present, all top staff posts are held by civilian officials.

Press dispatches, describing Japan's police reserve, point out that both officers and men of the police reserve wear uniforms similar to those of the US army. The organization itself follows the pattern of divisions, regiments, battalions and companies.

In a series of articles on the police reserve corps during

1951, the newspaper *Yomiuri* said that it had already been converted into a modern army. It is divided into four district commands with the troops in an advanced stage of military training, and it had been proposed to supply the corps with heavy guns, tanks and reconnaissance planes.

# South Korea Economy Shaky

THE deteriorating South Korean economy and the hardships of the people under US-Syngman Rhee rule are described in a recent report of the Japanese news agency, *Kyodo*.

According to a *Kyodo* correspondent, more than 50 cities and 1,406 villages in South Korea have been destroyed since the Korean war started in June 1950. Seven hundred and eighty-five South Korean factories and enterprises have been destroyed and more than 10 major concerns moved to Japan.

Last May, under the guise of "nationalization," the Bank of Korea, the Korea Industrial Enterprise, the Korea Textile Mill and 39 other privately-owned outfits fell into the hands of US "advisors."

Production figures for South Korea show a drastic decline. Only 50,000 tons of coal were mined in 1951. Total coal production from April 1948 to March 1949 was nearly 650,000 tons. Before the war there were seven power plants in South Korea. Today only one, in Seoul, is operating.

As a result of stand-still production, Japanese goods are flooding the market. From the outbreak of the war to mid-September 1951, the total value of imported Japanese goods amounted to US$44,000,000, equal to 310,000,000,000 South Korean *won*, or 75 percent of the amount of the currency issued by the Rhee regime at present.

*Kyodo* also reports that the South Korean government is resorting to the printing press to balance the budget. The amount of currency in circulation in June 1950 was 55,800,000 *won*, and it rose to 445,000,000,000 before the end of last October. By the end of 1951, according to South Korean press reports, 556,900,000,000 *won* were in circulation, 10 times the amount before the war started.

Unchecked inflation and the steady increase in the amount of paper money have made for skyrocketing prices and a sharp deterioration in living standards of the South Korean people. *Kyodo* points out that 50 percent of the population have become refugees and unemployment is increasingly more serious.

GROWING losses on the ground and in the air marks the record for US forces in Korea. More than 20,000 men, including 5,800 Americans, were killed, wounded or captured in the two and a half months' fighting up to mid-January, according to a *Hsinhua* dispatch from Korea on February 7.

Along with ground losses, American military bosses are finding it difficult to cover up growing air casualties. An *AP* dispatch early in the year admitted: "The weekly loss has been gradually increasing since the ground war slowed down and since allied offensive action was shifted to the air force."

Last November, Korean and Chinese forces shot down and damaged a total of 275 enemy planes. In December, the number went up to 309. By the second week in January, *AP* gloomily reported: "The allies suffered their biggest air loss of the war . . . the allied loss was far above the recent weekly average."

*Hsinhua*, on January 26, reported from Korea that captured pilots admit ever-growing losses to their air force. One 92-plane group lost 45 planes in six months last year. Many captured pilots, promised to be returned home after 100 flights by their superiors, have been brought down after only 10 missions, *Hsinhua* stated.

## Private "Aid" for India

THE two agreements signed last December between the Indian government and the American Standard-Vacuum Oil Company and the British Burmah-Shell Oil Company have raised considerable alarm in many Indian circles. Even conservative business circles are reported worried over the "colonial nature" of the agreements.

According to the published summaries of the agreements, (a similar agreement is scheduled to be signed shortly with the American Caltex Oil Company), the foreign firms will establish and operate oil refineries in India.

Among the "safeguards" offered by way of inducement is an assurance by the Indian government to hold back any contemplated nationalization plans for 25 years. In the event that nationalization should eventually be decided upon, the Indian government promises to pay reasonable compensation in foreign currency. In addition, certain regulations governing establishment and operation of foreign companies in India are being waived in favor of the oil companies.

Commenting upon the Standard-Vacuum agreement, the Indian weekly *Commerce & Industry* states that the provision which calls for 75 percent American ownership and only 25 percent Indian ownership signifies a grave departure from established practice. Previously, the weekly points out, government policy was to insist upon at least 51 percent Indian ownership.

Continuing, the magazine declares: ". . . . This agreement sets at naught some of the most important of all the policy statements of Nehru and the government of India, in which Indian financial ascendancy was made a crucial test. . . .

". . . . Primacy in capitalization and control is the criterion on which every Indian would judge the meaning of the inflow of foreign capital. What we see in Egypt and Persia today is something like a warning to all of us."

## French Losses in Viet-Nam

FOLLOWING its military successes at the end of 1951 the Viet-Nam People's Army has continued its victories against the French. More than 12,000 French troops were knocked out of action between November 10, when the French launched an attack in the Hoabinh area, and the end of January this year.

Commenting on heavy French losses, General Vo Nguyen Giap said that they approximate the total suffered by the enemy during the whole of 1951 in the midland, mining area and Hanam-Namdinh area combined. Many crack French units were annihilated in the VPA victories on the Black River and Hoabinh fronts, while no less important victories were scored in the enemy's rear, General Vo reported.

The box-score of the two-month period, according to the High Command's communique, showed that the VPA had put out of action 89 enemy posts, persuaded some 400 puppet army posts to surrender, dissolved 2,200 puppet councils and killed and captured a total of 12,350 troops. The VPA also shot down 11 planes, destroyed nine river vessels, 10 tanks, 169 armored cars and trucks, 21 artillery pieces of various calibres, including eight 105-mm. guns, one 120-mm. mortar, 16 machine guns and 12 gasoline and ammunition depots. War booty included 20 artillery pieces of 57 and 70 mm. calibres, 54 heavy machine guns, 138 light machine guns, 503 sub-machine guns, 59 wireless sets, 30 tons of ammunition and a large quantity of rifles and other supplies.

# Britain's Malaya Headache

THE Malayan situation, it is admitted both in London and Singapore, is at its worst since the war began there in 1948. A land of tin, rubber and dollar earnings for the British empire, Malaya continues to be a double headache for London.

Militarily, British forces have been unable to stop "inferior Communist" forces in Malaya. Economically, the big money in Britain has been fuming over the drop in the price of rubber and tin caused by US manipulation.

Particularly irritating to British policy-makers, as they watch themselves slip from power, is the fact that Malaya has been one of the main sources of supply for much needed dollars. Malaya's contribution to the empire's dollar pool between 1948 and 1950 was about US$650,000,000 out of a total of US$750,000,000 from all British colonial and dependent territories.

* * *

SOME idea of the deterioration of the British position in Malaya is found in Western press reports of the success of the Malayan people's liberation movement, which is glibly labeled "Communist."

British officials in Kuala Lumpur reported that the end of 1951 was the worst period since guerilla warfare had started. British casualty lists were growing longer and the number of idle plantations increasing. At the same time, frequent reference was made to the inability of the British, with an armed force of 18,000 in Malaya, plus thousands in the Malayan police force, to halt casualties and damage inflicted by fewer than 5,000 "Communists."

*US News and World Report* of November 30, 1951, with an eye to US involvement in Malaya, reported gloomy prospects for the British. According to the magazine, the "Communist push in Malaya, generally ignored, is getting places. . . A handful of Communist guerillas is beginning to disrupt the whole Malayan economy."

The main reason for British defeats, *US News* frankly stated, is the "British failure to keep the people of Malaya—especially the workers—on Britain's side in this fight."

Increasing strikes in tin mines and on rubber plantations are noted. The magazine reported that "fifteen Communist terrorists, a couple of weeks ago, distributed printed instructions to workers at 16 big plantations." This was sufficient "to close rubber operations down tight, making 7,000 workers idle."

The number one problem in Malaya, according to the magazine, is "the Malayan who is a worker by day, a Communist guerilla by night. It's doubtful that British troops can convert these Malayans by force. . . London, waking up to it, is now urging decisive action. US, sooner or later, will become involved."

*US News* notwithstanding, the US is already heavily involved in Malaya. Hand in hand with military aid to put down the people's liberation movement, Washington is out to take over the British financial position. Just as in the early days of the Iran crisis, when it was openly charged by both Labor and the Conservatives that the US was pushing out the British-owned Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in order to bring in an American company, Washington now is being accused of open economic penetration of Malaya by various British circles.

The influential *Manchester Guardian* called the turn when it said: "Malayan rubber and tin are two of Britain's foremost dollar-earning commodities. The huge dollar deficit of the sterling area in the third quarter and in October [1951] has clearly been aggravated by the decision of the US government to monopolize tin and rubber imports, to stop all tin purchases, and sharply reduce rubber purchases in Malaya. . . Britain is forced by US government policy to buy cotton at 44 cents which costs less than 10 cents to produce. Where are the real cartelists today?"

The conservative *Financial Times* has been an even more frequent and bitter exponent of this theme.

## AMERICA'S JAPAN

GROWING poverty Japan has caused a decline in the birth rate and an increase in child slavery and suicides.

The newspaper *Mainichi* stated that 10,000 fewer children were born in 1951 than in 1950. At the same time, *Sangyokeizai Shibun* declared that in some months during 1951 as many as 5,000 children were sold into slavery. "The poverty of the people is the chief reason why children and younger sisters are sold into slavery," reported *Mainichi*.

A Tokyo police report stated that there were three times as many suicides in 1951 as in the previous year.

# NEW MAN VILLAGE

### KAO FAN

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NEW Man Village was established in North Kiangsu in March 1950, on the initiative of the Civil Affairs and Public Security Bureau of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government. The project, which will eventually occupy a large, formerly neglected area of partially reclaimed land, was designed to help Shanghai's social derelicts and petty criminals begin a new life and reform themselves, to become new men through education and work.

The total area of the site is more than 500,000 *mou*, but the plan for the first stage of the whole project called for the occupation and improvement of 200,000 *mou* of semi-cultivated land, roughly in the center of the area. Ten "New Man" villages were to be built, totalling 6,000 rooms for living quarters, cotton was to be grown by collective farming, and handicraft industries were to be organized.

THE first stage of the plan has already been overfulfilled. Each village occupies 690 *mou* and has 32 dwellings housing 1,344 persons. In addition, each has its own government building, primary school and library, cooperative and warehouse, canteens, barns, public park and meeting ground.

In the central area are the district government, public security bureau, middle and primary schools, fully equipped hospital, athletic field, auditorium, guest house, general cooperative, and small ginning, weaving and vegetable oil factories.

Sze Chou Hu, near the central area, is familiarly called "North Shanghai" because of its network of roads and canals and its busy air. Besides growing cotton and cereals, the inhabitants make farm implements in their iron works and carpenter shops, and garments in their sewing shops. Many brought with them implements for making hosiery, soap, towels, toothbrushes and other small necessities.

WHENEVER tramps, professional beggars, and petty criminals such as pickpockets are picked up on the streets of Shanghai, they are first sent to the city's reform centers for a preliminary training. There they do manual labor, study current events, and are taught to read and write. The social causes of their degradation are explained to these victims of the old feudalistic China, and they are told about the changes that have taken place in society since liberation.

After the preliminary period of training, they may return to their native villages or take jobs. Most, however, prefer to take part in the reclamation project in North Kiangsu. By the middle of last October about 15,000 persons had been sent there and proved themselves excellent workers.

The film "New Man Village" showed the first stages of the project, with everything built by the men's own hands. They built houses and roads, dug ditches and wells, plowed and planted, while government cadres shared their hardships and worked side by side with them. In the evenings, they gathered in small groups to discuss current events and work experiences.

The film, produced a year ago, showed the dramatic contrast between the social outcasts picked up on the streets and the new men they had become, working hard and proud of their achievements. But what these new men have done since then is even more striking.

BEFORE the first group arrived at the site, all necessary supplies were made ready. The North Kiangsu People's Government, in cooperation with 110 cadres of the Shanghai Reclama-

tion Control Bureau, saw to it that sufficient food, construction materials, technicians and draft animals were provided for the newcomers. As a result, the ex-loafers and thieves were inspired with a zeal for work; they spontaneously started emulation drives to reclaim the land and make it produce.

By October of last year, 17 villages had been founded, instead of the planned 10, two cotton crops and great quantities of vegetables and fruit had been gathered, hundreds of wells had been dug, tens of thousands of trees planted and many head of livestock raised. In a little over a year, there were 9,000 *mou* of cotton fields, 500 *mou* of vegetables, and 300 *mou* planted with cereals. Last autumn's cotton crop alone totaled 3,600 piculs, worth about ¥1,000,000,000.

When the reclamation area has been enlarged to its planned size, the irrigation system completed, and the soil improved, it will probably become one of the chief cotton supplying regions for the Shanghai textile industry.

OUT of social derelicts, new men are being created through labor. There are no idlers; even the partially disabled carry out simple, useful tasks, such as making straw mats and ropes.

Ho Hsiao-lung was formerly a street comedian in Shanghai. His sight was impaired by smallpox three years ago, and when he was sent to the reform center he pretended to be totally blind, because he believed the rumor that they would all be forced to go to Taiwan and fight the KMT.

He was put in the group composed of blind men, and he underwent a "thought struggle," uncertain whether to remain

The Children's Chorus rehearses in New Man Village.

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A group of one-time social derelicts leaves from Shanghai for New Man Village by ship.

or try to escape. He didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he heard they were going to North Kiangsu. He had always longed to return to his native district, but he wondered how he could make a living there.

On the way to North Kiangsu, they stayed over night at a village in a flooded area. Although the villagers had only mussels and bran to eat, Ho Hsiao-lung and his companions still ate the same white-rice ration they had in Shanghai. Ho was moved, but still suspected that such good care would not last long; so he still kept up his pretense of blindness.

The blind group was one of several, including the aged, children and crippled, which were not sent to the area until living quarters had been built for them. When Ho's group was shown to its new quarters, he threw down his stick, confessed his deception and expressed his gratitude to the people's government. He joined a production team and has since worked energetically and well.

OF course, it is not easy to reform all the vagrants and pickpockets at one swoop. A few confirmed rascals put up considerable resistance. One former petty thief kept on stealing, even pilfering from the village cooperatives; and he ran away from the area twice. He and some others like him, through the process of education and hard labor, were made to see what it really meant to work for a living. It was only through actual physical labor that these men understood why it is a crime to steal the fruits of another's labor.

Thus, by strengthening education and by hard labor, the reclamation bureau's cadres have succeeded in bringing the recalcitrant ones to the realization that there are ample opportunities for them to lead honest lives.

Along with labor and education, cultural activities are in full swing. Many plays and operas, largely written and directed by the men, have been produced. The titles indicate that the subjects are close to current reality: "Sino-Korean Friendship," "Enemy Without Guns," "Husband and Wife Reclaim Land," to mention only three.

The area now has one big art troupe, equipped with scenery and costumes, six recreation groups, yangko, waist-drum and pantomime bands, and a modern brass band.

# Mutual Aid in Agriculture

. . . Kiang Chen-yo

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THE origin of mutual-aid teams in Chinese agriculture dates back more than 20 years, when mutual-aid brigades and agricultural cooperatives were formed in the Soviet zones of Kiangsi province. There they played an important role in overcoming the labor shortage and in raising agricultural production in areas blockaded by the KMT. As the movement proved very successful, large numbers of teams were formed in the old liberated areas during the war against Japan and the People's Liberation War.

After the driving out of the KMT and the establishment of the People's Republic of China, agriculture began to recover from the years of devastation and neglect. Land reform was carried out in the newly liberated areas, and all over China peasants began to join mutual-aid teams in large numbers. Masters of the land they tilled, they were eager to increase their output and their standard of living.

AT present, mutual-aid teams are of three types. The first is seasonal or temporary, and disbands after the specific task is accomplished. The second is organized on a long-term basis, with systematized division of labor, counting of work-days, and equal pay given for equal work. Many engage in subsidiary occupations. The third type unites two or three of the second type in one unit, permitting the use of modern farm machinery.

Li Shun-ta's mutual-aid team in Shansi was the first to respond to the government's 1950 call to all peasants to participate in the patriotic emulation drive to increase production, strengthen the mutual-aid teams and improve the people's livelihood. The team publicized its plans and the details of its improved cultivation methods, and challenged the country's other teams to meet or exceed its targets. Li Shun-ta's team soon became well known as China's model team.

Soon, 2,500 of Shansi's approximately 150,000 teams took up Li Shun-ta's challenge. The Chiou Ya-li Team of Kai Hsien, Shansi, became famous by its record-breaking harvest of 745 *catties* of cotton per *mou* (nearly 5,000 pounds per acre). As a result, membership in Shansi's mutual-aid teams jumped from 30 percent of the rural population in 1950 to 56 percent in the first half of 1951.

More than 300,000 peasants of Hopei province joined teams in the first quarter of 1951, and 10,000 model workers from 5,000 villages took part in emulation drives to step up farm output and improve cultivation methods. Nearly all pledged themselves to follow Li Shun-ta's example.

At the same time, in Chahar province, 11,000 model peasants and more than 2,000 teams competed for high productivity records. In Chahar, Suiyuan and Pingyuan provinces more than 1,150 teams accepted Li Shun-ta's challenge.

Meanwhile, a large number of temporary teams were reorganized on a more stable, long-term basis, and the counting of workdays and awarding of bonuses for meritorious work were more carefully systematized.

In the Northwest, a Shensi team and one in Chinghai were the first to accept Li Shun-ta's challenge. During spring sowing last year, 450 teams of Shensi, Kansu, Chinghai and Ninghsia pledged themselves to follow Li Shun-ta's example, but by summer, the number had grown to 3,420. In the meantime, a wave of inter-team competitions to raise production, improve farm implements and cultivation methods, swept over the vast Northwest.

In mid-1951, there were about 167,300 seasonal and long-term mutual-aid teams in the area, comprising more than 1,580,000 farmers and 144,000 draught animals.

MUTUAL-AID teams in the Northeast are largely of the long-term type, but there are also many larger units, combining two or three long-term teams. In the first half of 1951, membership in mutual-aid teams rose to 90 percent of the population in some counties, and their members got 30 percent more ploughing done than peasants working individually.

By the second quarter of 1951, more than 60,000 teams of 58 *hsien* in the Northeast responded to Li Shun-ta's challenge, and 150,000 teams took part in the area's patriotic emulation drives. Compared with other areas, Northeast teams are more experienced and have made greater advances in production technique. They not only sow more intensively, employ selected and disinfected seed and use more improved fertilizer, but also take precautions against plant diseases and insect pests, and are training a great number of their members to use modern farm machinery and implements.

Although more than 70 percent of the approximately 1,000,000 teams in East China are in Shantung, new teams are constantly being formed in other parts of the area. In Shantung, most of the teams are reorganizing themselves into long-term units.

North Anhwei has about 170,000 teams, and in this province, as well as in Shantung, Chekiang and Kiangsu, fishermen, tea and mulberry growers and silkworm raisers have organized teams by the tens of thousands.

THE team led by Li Tung-yang in North Anhwei, in organization and method of counting workdays, is a typical model mutual-aid team. It is comprised of 22 families and works the 436.4 *mou* of land allotted to the village's 136 persons. The team has 89 full-time laborers, 12 half-time laborers, 20 head of oxen and donkeys, five carts, 27 ploughs and many other small implements.

A nine-man central committee directs and leads the other members' work. The whole team is divided into three agricultural production groups, made up of 19 families, while the workers of the other three families manage the subsidiary occupations. During the busy spring sowing time, however, most of the latter are temporarily assigned to regular agricultural work. Those members owning oxen cultivate the land of those having no oxen, the latter doing other work in return.

A peasant mutual-aid team working in cotton fields outside Woosung, a Shanghai suburb.

The members of the team have devised a rational method of dividing the work and counting workdays; it is a credit system based on the principle of "equal pay for equal work." Credits are awarded on the basis of 10 points for a first-class laborer's workday, with eight points for second class and six points for third. A laborer's half workday is five points. The draught animals are also divided into classes, with 20, 18 and 16 points per workday per head.

After the day's work, the members hold a discussion meeting to decide and record everyone's points. A member's points may be increased or decreased, depending upon special circumstances, his merits or demerits, etc.

In order to increase members' incomes, the team has set up simple apparatus for the making of edible oil, malt sugar and bean curd. Every middle peasant may invest in two shares of these subsidiary enterprises, with poor peasants permitted a three share investment.

CENTRAL-South China's mutual-aid teams helped materially to produce the area's bumper harvest last summer. Total cultivated area exceeded the original target by 8,340,000 *mou*, and as compared with 1950, wheat production rose by 30 percent, rice by 9.2 percent, cotton by nearly 114 percent and tobacco by 439 percent.

The teams in this area are largely of the seasonal or temporary type, and large numbers have been formed in Hunan, Kiangsi, Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The 114,000 teams of Honan's 41 *hsien* include nearly half of the peasant population, and in Hupeh, more than 52,000 teams were formed. The government is encouraging the peasants to form more teams and is granting existing teams every facility.

IN Southwest China, where 39,000,000 of a total rural population of 90,000,000 have won back their land, the peasants' enthusiasm for production resulted in much bigger harvests in 1951, and tens of thousands of mutual-aid teams were organized. Crop increases in 1951, as compared with 1950, were estimated at 1.5 percent for grain, 68 percent for cotton, 12 percent for tobacco and 35 percent for potatoes, while tea and jute production surpassed the average pre-liberation level.

In the Southwest, as in other areas of China, the mutual-aid team movement is spreading rapidly, as hundreds of thousands of liberated peasants discover the concrete advantages of collective effort.

# CHINA NOTES

## New "Great Wall" Being Built

A MODERN "Great Wall" is being built by new China. Destined to ward off the ravages of nature, a 15-year project is under way in the northern part of Northeast China against wind, sand, drought and flood.

The new "wall" will not be made of stone, brick and granite, but will consist of a 700-mile long forest shelter belt. Growing out of billions of seedlings of pine, fir and other softwood, the belt will run south from Fuyu and Kannan in Heilungkiang province down to the Liaotung Peninsula and Shanhaikuan, starting point of China's ancient Great Wall. At its broadest section the new forest area will spread out to a width of 185 miles. The project calls for more than 3,000,000 hectares of new forest.

The projected tree belt will put an end to the many natural calamities which have long plagued agriculture in the Northeast. Initial plans were first drawn up by the Northeast People's Government in 1950. They have recently been revised to include more than one-fifth of the territory of the Northeast, more than double the size of the original project.

Kao Kang, chairman of the Northeast People's Government, has pointed out that the huge project is "a fight to conquer sand and eliminate floods, a fight to wrest more arable land from nature, a fight for bigger harvests, for safer living and better health conditions for the peasants; but not least, it is a fight for more timber which will be needed in industrial, transport and other construction work later on."

Sand carried southeast by the wind has steadily transformed fertile fields into sand dunes, and flood and drought in different parts of the Northeast have hampered the development of agriculture.

The new "wall of trees" will go a long way to counteract such conditions. In 15 years' time the appearance of the Northeast will be greatly changed as forests, farms and grazing land emerge out of the present areas of sand dunes and steppes. The fully grown shelter belt will make 1,800,000 hectares of land available for crops. This is equal to almost one-third of the total acreage under cultivation in the uplands. In addition, the forest belt will produce an annual yield of timber equal in value to 40,000,000 tons of crops.

At present all preparations for this Northeast afforestation project are under way. Actually, beginnings on a small-scale were made last spring. Since that time, 18,000,000 seedlings have been planted in a total area of more than 4,000 hectares.

## Chinese Protest HK Deportation

CONTINUOUS arrests and deportation of Chinese residents in Hongkong has resulted in a stern protest to the British authorities by the Chinese government.

On January 10, armed Hongkong police and plain-clothes men in armored cars surrounded the homes of eight Chinese movie workers and placed them under arrest. No reason was given. The reply to the question of one of the arrested was: "No reason whatever. The Hongkong government can arrest you whenever it pleases."

Forbidden to speak with their families or take any clothing or other personal belongings, the movie workers were forced to leave their homes at gunpoint and were taken off in police cars. They were deported soon after being taken to police headquarters.

Following these arrests, two more movie workers were arrested and deported. In addition, a number of Chinese representing thousands of victims of a fire-ravaged village in the Kowloon area, along with the secretary of the Kowloon branch of the Hongkong-Kowloon Textile and Dyeing Workers' Union, were also deported within the next few days. The men had been negotiating on behalf of the homeless villagers with the British authorities on matters such as relief and re-housing arising from the November 21, 1951, fire.

On January 25, the Chinese government in Peking issued an official protest in which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that it regarded the events in Hongkong not as local incidents but as a serious new development in the United Kingdom's hostile policy towards the People's Republic of China, which is the outcome of the Churchill cabinet's further submission to the USA . . ."

# Agricultural Victories

ONE of new China's greatest achievements has been the restoration of her war-devastated agriculture. Hard hit by more than a decade of war, China's farms are now producing more than enough food to feed and clothe her population of 475,000,000.

The nation's overall cereal crop in 1951 was 92.8 percent of the highest pre-war level in 1936. This is a tremendous success in view of the fact that war and Chiang's rule had reduced the nation's agricultural output to about three-quarters of the 1936 figure.

Agricultural production in most of the earlier liberated areas has already reached or exceeded the pre-war level. Northeast China is in the lead and its 1951 harvest topped all marks set before liberation. The food crop in Shantung province, an old liberated area, was nine percent above its pre-war level. Newly liberated areas are not lagging far behind. For example, East China's food crop has reached 95.8 percent of the pre-war level.

New China not only has succeeded in restoring her farms, but has also eliminated the damage done by the decades of dumping of agricultural products by foreign countries. Before liberation, China's cotton acreage steadily diminished as the US flooded Shanghai and other textile centers with surplus cotton. The cotton area in China has now been expanded to an unprecedented figure, and the 1951 cotton crop was the biggest in the country's history.

WITH the restoration of China's agriculture has come a better life for the peasants. Reports from all over the country reveal that their purchasing power has gone up and, for the first time, the peasant is able to put money in the bank.

The new prosperity in the countryside finds expression in many forms: the new houses and schools being built, the new clothes that have replaced the tattered rags on the peasant's back, the growing quantity of manufactured goods he and his wife are buying, and the rapid increase in the number of branches of the People's Bank all over the countryside.

Chief reason for increased purchasing power has been land reform which shattered centuries-old feudalism in China. With the peasant owner of the land he works, bigger crops have been reaped and he no longer has to hand over more than half his harvest in rents to the landlord. Purchasing power of peasants in Chekiang province, for example, went up by more than 100 percent during 1951—the first year after land reform.

As a result of increased purchasing power, peasants in Shantung province bought more farming implements in 1951. The increased use of modern farming implements has been instrumental in increasing confidence in scientific farming and has helped expand membership in mutual-aid teams. All this promises higher crop production this year. Agricultural plans for 1952 in Shantung call for a rise of 10-15 percent over the pre-war level.

Plans for grain output in Hunan province, China's "rice bowl," call for a general 10 percent increase over 1951, with state farms increasing output by 30 percent. The January meeting in Peking of the North China Agricultural Conference called on the entire North China area to increase 1952 grain output by 3,900,000 tons and cotton by approximately 100,000 tons. This would surpass North China's highest previous level.

## Peasants Attend School

FOR centuries the term *mang jen* (illiterate) was used to describe the Chinese peasant. Since liberation this name has begun to disappear as millions of peasants join in the nation-wide literacy movement. Thousands of schools for peasants have sprung up in the countryside.

The winter season, when the peasant has more time from his fields, is a busy time for the countryside schools. More than 10,000,000 peasants enrolled in winter schools in East China beginning last December.

In North Kiangsu province alone 2,000,000 peasants are attending winter schools, three times as many as in the previous winter. In other parts of East China the number of peasants in winter classes increased more than 100 percent.

Given the opportunity to go to school for the first time, the peasants have entered into their studies with great enthusiasm. Many have contributed funds for the operation of their schools out of proceeds earned through sideline occupations.

Not only do the peasants learn to read and write, but the promotion of winter education has helped greatly in developing different rural tasks. For example, peasants in many mountainous regions were not in the habit of carrying out winter hoeing, but now, after learning how it eliminates harmful insects, they have begun to do it. Winter classes also have acquainted the peasant with the nation-wide movement to increase production and practice economy.

The widespread winter school movement has required a teachers' training program. Last November, in 43 Shantung counties alone, 33,000 teachers were trained for winter work. About 10,000 of the 40,000 winter school teachers in Fukien were given special training so as to serve as the spearhead in the winter study drive.

A TYPICAL example of the effects of peasant study is Hoshangfang village in Poshan county in Shantung. This one-time illiteracy-ridden village now boasts of not a single *mang jen*. Except for children under school age and very old people, everybody is attending school or literacy classes.

The village is made up of 40 families with a total population of 196. A primary school was set up in 1949 following liberation, and a public school established in 1950. The latter provides regular classes, women's literacy classes, and political classes. In the primary school there are 24 pupils who constitute the total number of school-age children in Hoshangfang.

Students in regular classes have finished three to four readers and can read a newspaper. Education helps them take more interest in their work and last year they learned from their newspapers the advantage of soaking seeds before sowing.

For the benefit of those housewives unable to attend regular studies, a method called "presentation of the characters" was worked out. The school teachers sent students to visit different houses and write the names of the articles of furniture and kitchen utensils on the objects themselves. Thus, the housewives gradually became familiar with the characters for things needed for daily use, and the literacy drive was carried to every house in the village.

# An American Writ

**The writer is a young American staff member of an experimental livestock farm in Inner Mongolia. The following are excerpts from her answer to a letter received from a friend in America.**

YOU ask is Chiang arousing little counter-revolutions? To this I think a good example is the situation just here where we are. When we came remnants of the Kuomintang were still floating around here and there and we spent some time keeping out of their way, but now it is completely changed. There are no more bandits.

The Mongolians are organizing. Everyone is starting to study. The women have elected their representatives, night schools have been opened for the nomads to study, the Mongolians are learning to read and write Mongolian. They are also becoming more and more conscious of world affairs.

I think Truman should think twice about his war in Korea —why is he having such a tough time? It is because something new has happened in Asia—the whole of Asia has arisen. not just parts of it, not just certain people, but hundreds upon hundreds of millions of people! United there is strength.

One day I came home to find a whole herd of goats in with our sheep—about 20 native cows in our corral and two horses tied outside to the hitchpost. "What's up?" I asked. "We're buying an airplane to fight the American imperialists, to drive them out of our land and leave us to construct our new world in peace," came the reply. The Mongolians are giving their cows and goats and horses to buy an airplane to fight in Korea! The whole nation has risen up and it would take a lot more than atom bombs to break its will . . .

How much influence does the Soviet Union have? She has a great deal of influence. But of what kind? China is learning from her as fast as she can. She is learning how to build dams to control her huge rivers. She is learning how to operate and construct tractors and combines, to make machine tools and automobiles, to improve her horses, cows and pigs, and to make her sheep so that they will all clip 18 pounds a year. She is learning with the help of Soviet

# rom Inner Mongolia

advice how to change herself from an agrarian feudal country into a strong modern industrial country overnight.

She signed a perfectly open and public agreement with the Soviet Union—an agreement of mutual assistance, of trade, of friendship. And now the agreement is being carried out. Here, where we are, the only thing Russian that has arrived are 10 Soviet stallions. We are using them to breed up the Mongolian ponies. There are no strings attached. There are no ulterior motives. Everything is out in the open, there is but one purpose and that is to improve the standard of living, to raise the culture of the people.

I imagine a lot of people at home can't understand how it is that the Koreans and Chinese volunteers manage to hold back the UN forces in spite of hell and high water. Basically it is that they know and believe thoroughly in what they are fighting for. They have a vision of the world to be and they are determined that nothing will stop the construction of this new world of plenty for all.

As for human relations, I think this too becomes an entirely new concept as soon as any worry of how one is to make a living disappears. In the new society you don't need to be selfish. Everything is done for the good of all, there is no "getting ahead" by pushing the other fellow down. The only way anyone can get better conditions is by everybody getting them—by everybody working together to get them.

Thus, with this basic difference from the old society, human relations have a basic change. On top of this a tremendous effort is put into teaching people how to cooperate. The best cooperators, the hardest workers, the most unselfish people are held up as examples, are invited to big meetings, are encouraged.

Maybe one of the great differences in feeling now between you at home and the people here is that optimism permeates the atmosphere here, while news from home always seems pessimistic, unsure of the future. But really there is nothing to be pessimistic about—you mustn't worry about the future. The world is basically changing for the better very fast.

— *JOAN HINTON*

# New Houses for Workers

SHANGHAI, a city of vivid contrasts between wealthy and poor before liberation, is now concentrating on providing workers and their families with decent places to live. For decades, under Japanese occupation and Kuomintang control, new buildings in China's largest metropolis mainly served as offices or fancy residences for the foreigners and the rich Chinese. The working class was relegated to the poorest areas of the city where their antiquated ramshackle dwellings lacked electricity and running water.

Since liberation projects have been under way to provide workers with livable dwellings. Because housing for workers was an immediate necessity, one aspect of the drive for better housing has been the government plan for converting property of KMT officials who fled from Shanghai before liberation and converting them into workers' housing projects. A number of these consisted of broken-down houses which had not been repaired for years. The municipal government is reconstructing them into modern housing projects for the city's workers.

In line with this policy, new homes for workers are becoming more numerous. For example, work on New Tsao Yang Terrace in the Pootoo district is expected to be completed shortly. About 70 percent of the building program was finished last December. The site of the project is 200 *mou* in area and consists of a terrace of 167 standard houses capable of accomodating 1,000 workers' families averaging five members to a family.

Construction work got under way in September 1951 when workers in the district were approached and invited to a meeting by the Public Housing Administration and the Bureau of Public Works. There, they were sounded out on their views regarding the proposed housing scheme.

The new houses will be equipped with all modern conveniences, electricity, flush toilets and so forth. Each house will have a "common kitchen" for use by three co-tenants. In addition, the center of the terrace has a well laid out park which will also serve as a children's playground.

The terrace will be a complete unit, containing a primary school, a clinic, public bath-house and cooperative society for all families residing there. Funds for the project were supplied by the PHA.

Another building program under the auspices of the PHA is People's Villa. In order to carry out work as speedily as possible for workers in urgent need of housing, the buildings have been constructed of brick and timber. Simple in structure, nevertheless they are sturdily built.

The old People's Villa had not been repaired for 20 years and had become a public menace. The workers living there are mostly pedicab drivers and workers in nearby glass and tobacco factories. The total number of workers and their families comes to 600.

This group of houses, consisting of 152 rooms, was ransacked by KMT soldiers during the Japanese war. Afterwards they were hardly fit to live in. The looting was so complete that even doors and windows were carted off. The Japanese later commandeered all the water pipes in the area and shipped them to Japan for scrap.

Since the housing administration began work, the place has been completely transformed. Instead of the old muddy road leading to the houses there is a paved street and new underground sewer pipes. The roofs of the buildings have been repaired, doors and windows installed, and partition walls have been remade. Under the control of the PHA since 1950, rents are nominal and all rent due previous to June 1951 has been waived.

Still another rebuilding program got under way last July in one of the city's most crowded downtown areas. The buildings affected are known as Terrace 15 Pingwang Street. It was in a complete state of deterioration when the housing administration began work. According to all records, nearly 60 years had elapsed without a single repair being made. It was small wonder that the new program was heartily welcomed by the 340 residents.

Work entails the raising of the neglected and much deteriorated two-story houses to three stories as well as the installation of all modern conveniences which were lacking in the original building. The repairs and re-modeling done have also made for a sharp contrast with the past structure. The new buildings have plently of light and are well-ventilated.

Other workers' residences being planned include a terrace of houses which will handle 5,000 workers and their families in the Pootoo district, and another 64 houses in the Hwangpoo district.

FROM a hangout of criminals to a workshop is the story of the Harbin Building. Heavily damaged during the war, only a small fraction of the building was left. Under KMT rule, after VJ Day, the building became a haven for refugees fleeing the poverty-stricken countryside. However, it was not long before thieves, pickpockets, hoodlums and petty criminals infested the place. Plaguing the refugees, they used the building as a headquarters for their various activities. Following liberation, the Civil Affairs Bureau of the city government investigaed the building and its inhabitants, and all the criminals were rounded up.

This was followed by a re-modeling project, after which the city government established Shanghai's New Man's Workshop, as a training school for the former refugees and a place of reform through labor for many of the criminals who had lived there. It now houses many productive units, such as auto repairing, sewing, construction, shoe-making and printing departments. After undergoing special training the "new men" go to work in the different departments.

SINCE liberation about 75 percent of all public-owned houses in Shanghai have undergone repairs, 31,111 houses receiving minor repairs and 1,262 major repairs.

The present phase of converting old buildings into new livable ones for workers is but a modest start by the PHA and PWB. Indications are that more and more workers' residences will go up in the immediate future in line with the government policy of serving the working people.

— *H. F. L.*

## *AT HOME IN THE ARMY*

"AN American colonel or general in Tokyo, on occupation duty, can enjoy a very lush life. He can live—and many do—on a scale that in the US would require an income of $50,000. A millionaire's mansion is his for the requisitioning. Rent, including all utilities, repairs, housefurnishings, complete to linen and silverware, may cost him $150 a month. Free American schools are provided for his children. Medical care is free, too. Movies cost him 25 cents; cigarettes, 10 cents a pack; gasoline, 15 cent a gallon; the best bourbon, $2 a bottle. Japanese luxury goods are tax free. For a pleasant week end, the American officer can visit luxurious resort hotels requisitioned from the Japanese. Bill for a week end won't exceed $5.—*US News and World Report,* December 21, 1951.

# A Land of Dancing

### Lee Yung-yuan

I did not expect to see so many dances and hear so many songs as I found in Korea, which is such a small country and has suffered so much cruelty and devastation under the Japanese and American aggressors.

The day we entered Korea, we were invited to a concert. We were dubious and did not expect very much; but we were agreeably surprised by the richness of the hour program. Although there were no spotlights or stage decorations, the skill and grace of the girl dancers, as they whirled in beautiful robes in the lamplight, held us breathless.

Although I have not traveled far in Korea, I have found dancing and singing everywhere; it is an important part of the life of the people.

The Korean girls not only dance on the platform, but in parades along the street, or in open ground in the country.

For 35 years under Japanese rule, the invaders suppressed the people's culture because it was patriotic and inspired young Koreans to rise against the tyrants. The Japanese tried to supplant the beautiful Korean art by importing songs from Japan, bawdy songs, or those which extolled the greatness of the conquerors.

Two characteristic Korean dances are the "Dance of Two Lovers" and "Autumn Harvest Dance." In the former, a shepherd is courting his girl. At first she ignores his advances; the couple rounds the stage twice, the girl pretending to drive him off. At last she accepts him, and they dance joyously together.

The "Autumn Harvest Dance" shows a group of peasants busily working in the field. They simulate the various phases of their work which is vigorous and jolly.

It is interesting that heretofore only girls and women danced. But with the formation of the officially sponsored cultural dance troupe, young male dancers were included.

Singing accompanies the dances. Without the songs, the dances would lack much of their charm. Some dances are accompanied by several songs, some by only one. For example, the "Dance of the Korean Democratic Youth" is danced to the song of the same name. The song universally known and sung in Korea is the "Song of General Kim Il Sung," which is equivalent to China's "The East Is Red."

# Air War in Korea

Reports from Korea indicate that the US air force is meeting with heightened resistance and that its long dominance of Korean skies is being increasingly challenged.

Taken at their face value, the pessimistic American reports on the aerial war would indicate that the US air force has been all but crippled in the Korean fighting. However, since it is obvious that such reports are issued with definite political objectives in mind, such as enhancing speedy passage by Congress of the military's ever-increasing demands for more funds, they must be accepted with some reserve.

On the other hand, communiques from North Korea undoubtedly do not show full US losses since they cannot account for those damaged planes which manage to fly away from the scene of action but crash on their way back to their bases, or for US operational losses.

However, the fact remains that in addition to its heavy cost on the ground the Korean war is beginning to exact a substantial toll on the US air force, for so long the pride and joy of those American advocates of a "quick and easy" war.

●

*Below: Captured US pilot being helped down mountain side by Chinese volunteers. This pilot parachuted to safety after his F-80 jet was shot down by Chinese A-A gunner Jung Tze-yung with only 10 rounds.*

*Above: Tail section of an American B-29 shot down by Chinese People's Volunteers.*

*Below: Wreckage of a P-51 downed by volunteers at Ichun.*

# Signs of the Times

SUCCESSFUL experiments in manufacturing nodular cast iron have been completed in Northeast China. This development is expected to play an important role in future industrial construction. Nodular cast iron is superior to ordinary wrought iron and is produced at a much lower cost than steel. It will fill many needs previously met by steel and wrought iron.

* * *

THE number of head of livestock in Southwest China greatly increased in 1951. The number of cattle went up by 21 percent; sheep, 11 percent; and pigs, 32 percent. The increase is attributed largely to government measures to stamp out animal epidemics and in other aid to livestock breeders.

* * *

UNEXPECTED speedy success has been attained by the Pharmaceutical Laboratory of the People's Liberation Army Medical College in manufacturing Heterazan, a specific remedy for filariasis. The cost of the new drug is only one-sixth of the formerly imported American product which was first invented in 1947.

* * *

AS a result of the current increase-production and practice-economy drive, workers of the machinery protection team of the weaving workshop of the No. 6 Cotton Mill in Tsingtao, through the use of discarded parts, have succeeded in assembling 46 ordinary weaving machines. These machines will be able to turn out an output of 31,824 bolts of cloth this year.

* * *

SINCE liberation more native wool has been used by Shanghai's mills. The increase recorded in 1951 was five times 1949. Local woolen textile plants used Australian wool to the extent of 98 percent before liberation. As a result of improved methods of dressing, native produced wool has become very popular. Taking 1947 as a base, the average monthly consumption of imported wool during 1951 was only 8.99 percent.

# BOOKS OF INTEREST

### *ALL QUIET IN THE KREMLIN by George Marion, Fairplay Publishers, 165 Broadway, Suite 2800, New York City 6, N.Y. 183 pages, Price $1.50 for paper edition.*

### *PROFILE OF RED CHINA by Lynn and Amos Landman, Simon and Schuster, New York City, 202 pages, Price $3.00.*

HOW can a writer best explain to people in America, who have been barraged with reports of "purges," "slave labor" and famines, the actual conditions in China or in the Soviet Union? Many Americans have had their minds made up by the constant outpourings appearing in the press denouncing these countries. Some, however, want to get as much information as they can so they may judge for themselves. So if an honest author is writing for a broad American audience, he must tell the facts in a way that can be understood, that will be accepted and that gives a complete picture.

Two books by American writers have recently tackled this, and they are interesting to compare for they show two different approaches.

In ALL QUIET IN THE KREMLIN, George Marion writes in a popular, anecdotal fashion, with plenty of facts of what he saw and did in six months in the Soviet Union. He goes there to find out if "you and I, average, unspecialized Americans" who want to live in peace with the Soviet Union can find anything within that country that would make this impossible.

He is writing for a "united front" audience, for all honest skeptics who want the facts. Writing in the first person, he tells of his talks with some of the people who rebuilt Stalingrad, with a schoolboy who has developed an alloy that enables lathes to operate at airplane speed, and with Lydia Karabelnikova who started the movement to economize and eliminate waste in the Paris Commune Shoe Factory.

He writes about these people, not because they are "average" but because they are "typical"—typical of the Soviet Union that is becoming. As he says, "you can tell the truth about Russia only by describing the process"—what was before, what is happening today and what this means for tomorrow.

He, like most newspapermen trained in America, first looked for something sensational to write about, but wherever he went he found that the really "big story" was the tremendous job of reconstruction with which everybody is pre-occupied. ". . . The Russians have no time for anything sensational in our sense . . . they absolutely refuse to be diverted from their completely unnewsworthy daily dedication to the humdrum little tasks that make up the biggest job the world has even seen. A quiet story, yes, but there are times when quietness can be positively sensational!"

And from his book, "you and I, average unspecialized Americans" are convinced that the Soviet people "uniformly require peace for the fulfilment of their tasks. . . ." We are convinced because he looks for what "you and I" would look for. He shows us why the Soviet people are justly proud of their achievements, and more important, he shows us how hard they are working for an even brighter future.

* * *

ANOTHER way of treating as touchy a subject, from the American book publishers' point of view, as the Soviet Union or new China is shown in PROFILE OF RED CHINA by Lynn and Amos Landman. The authors say their book is "not a plea for or against the Communists or the Nationalists . . . not a plea for or against Senator Knowland's China line or the State Department's China line . . ." meaning, they infer, that it is an

**NEW CHINA: FRIEND OR FOE?**

An eye-witness account of the birth of the new China and what it means to the world.

**by ALUN FALCONER**

Mr. Falconer, a young New Zealander, watched the death of the old China and the birth of the new China. His book, which describes the new China, placing it in its proper perspective both in Chinese history and in relation to the current world situation, is recommended reading.

Readers in China may order copies of "New China: Friend or Foe?" from the **China Monthly Review,** 160 Yenan Road East, Shanghai. Price ¥20,000 per copy.

***BOUND VOLUMES***

***A limited number of bound volumes of the China Monthly Review—Volume 120-121 January to December 1951—are now available at ¥75,000 delivered within China and US$4.25 for abroad per volume. Bound volumes for the second half of 1951—Vol. 121, are available separately at ¥40,000 for delivery in China and US$2.25 for delivery abroad. Each volume is indexed by subject.***

★

**China Monthly Review**
**160 Yenan Road, East**
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"objective" account of what they saw and heard during their two years in China from June 1948 through September 1950.

And to make sure that their American readers feel it is "objective," they constantly refer to the Chinese People's Government as "the Communist government," they use the word liberation in quotation marks as well as the term united front, and they make a great point of bringing up many con-New China viewpoints supposedly to balance the pro viewpoints.

While the authors were scrupulous in making their facts as accurate as possible, they were not so scrupulous in interpreting these facts. For instance, though they recognized the mass support given to the people's government by the four classes—workers, peasants, petit bourgeois and national capitalists—they distorted the whole meaning of a people's democracy.

Here is what they wrote: "Literally everyone except the 'reactionaries' was organized. There were women's associations, peasants' associations; guilds in every industry and trade . . . trade unions in every field . . . organizations of students, professors, scientists, artists, various minority groups, and so on. Each had as its function the implementation of Communist policy as it applied to the particular group."

But Communist policy, as they explain some 50 pages before this, is to carry out New Democracy, the principle that the four classes work together to "change the colonial, semi-colonal and semi-feudal form of society into an independent democratic society," which Chairman Mao outlines as the first stage of the revolution.

Then these people's organizations are not for "organizing the Chinese into a host of associations for the purpose of control," as the Landmans state. They are the very foundation of people's democracy. The people actively participate in their own organizations, elect their own representatives, the peasants themselves participate in land reform, the workers themselves participate in factory rationalization programs, in promoting emulation drives.

How else to explain the unqualified enthusiasm of the Chinese people in the great movements that have taken place since liberation: land reform, suppression of counter-revolutionaries and Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea? For in these movements the people have shown their strength, their determination to maintain their present gains and to advance to a still higher standard of living.

Can this be done by what the authors call "Communist control?" The Landmans fail to explain that the Communist Party is leading the Chinese revolution specifically because it relies upon the people's active participation. Only in that way can it maintain its leadership and such huge programs as land reform be carried on.

In sticking to their "objective" facts, in refusing to interpret the "process of becoming," which is the only way to explain the daily advances that have been recorded in China during the past two years and to evaluate its future prospects, in distorting the mass participation in a people's democracy, the authors have offered a picture of new China that can only confuse the less informed, and that will antagonize the very ones they tried to placate by their "objectivity." For the facts, even as set forth by the authors, show that the people's government enjoys the support of the Chinese people.

*— S. C.*

## LETTERS

*(Continued from Page 224)*

divulge the whereabouts of their father. The girl, now 12 years old, often says, "Our father set us a good example. When I grow up I want to be a doctor and serve the people."

The thought of serving the people when they become adults dominates their minds. The earnestness of these sons and daughters of revolutionary heroes expresses itself in every respect. In last year's recruiting drive most pupils in the upper class volunteered to become cadets in the military cadres' schools. Tan Chu-ing once wrote her brother in the People's Liberation Army, "Let us begin a competition. I aim to be a model pupil and you strive to become a combat hero."

In the donation drive for planes and heavy guns for the volunteers in Korea, the pupils sold the vegetables they had raised and contributed the Y500,000 to the drive.

T. S. HO

Foochow
January 30, 1952.

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## A PEOPLE'S FILM

The film "Resist US and Aid Korea" is not only an excellent picture but was a valuable lesson to me.

The heroic deeds performed in Korea by the Chinese volunteers and KPA have roused my deepest respect and love for them, while the cruelty exhibited by the American invaders made me hate them the more.

When I saw the houses in Korea burned to the ground and people killed in outrageous ways, I could smell the fire and hear the outcries against the US invasion from the hearts of people throughout the world.

The bravery of the Chinese volunteers and KPA revealed in the film greatly encouraged me. It has enabled me to face bravely and conquer every difficulty that I encounter.

K. H. SHIEH

Shanghai
January 29, 1952.

## Overseas

To the Editor:

There are nearly 10,000,000 overseas Chinese living in the various countries of Southeast Asia. In Malaya and Thailand they comprise close to half the population. Forced to migrate from China because of economic hardship, these Chinese have lived in Southeast Asia for generations.

For centuries, Southeast Asia has been, directly or indirectly, in the grip of foreign imperialism and the Chinese have been looked down upon as a colonial people, suffering exploitation and oppression. Despite constant persecution there was little they could rely on in the days of the Kuomintang, for that regime was dependent on the imperialists, and therefore offered them no support. Instead, the Chiang gang in order to curry favor with its masters, helped to suppress any patriotic movement on the part of overseas Chinese.

The rise of new China has set new horizons for the millions of Chinese living in Southeast Asia. No longer is their fatherland in the hands of a cringing and servile government. China has stood up and so have the overseas Chinese. Today they are watching eagerly the great progress being made at home, and more and more they are joining in the libera-

## US WORKINGMAN

To the Editor:

May I assure you that those of us in America who know and can recognize the truth amidst the plethora of filth and contumely our papers daily deluge us with, are hopefully looking forward not only to peace in Korea but to the admission of a free and powerful China into the forum of nations.

We do what we can daily. However, you should understand that the pall of persecution against all anti-war forces in this country is more

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## *Chinese Look to New China*

tion struggle throughout Southeast Asia.

When the liberation war was still raging in China many of the youth returned to China and took part. Since liberation many have returned to play a role in the era of rehabilitation now taking place in their fatherland.

The inauguration of the People's Government of China on October 1, 1949, was an event of great importance to the overseas Chinese throughout Southeast Asia. Despite all manner of persecution and obstruction they celebrated, either overtly or covertly.

In Indonesia the Chinese, disregarding the Dutch police, hastened to make national flags and hoisted 55 flags triumphantly over the capital Djakarta. In Thailand 1,000 Chinese were arrested for celebrating the inauguration. Overseas compatriots in Soerabaja, Indonesia, celebrated National Day by releasing 100 peace doves, and shouted slogans such as: "Fight for world peace!" "Long Live Chairman Mao!" and "Long Live the Chinese People's Republic!"

Even in the Philippines overseas Chinese, faced with the combined terror of the American, Chiang and governmental authorities, have not been brow-beaten. Various democratic organizations there secretly combined to celebrate National Day and sent a cabled greeting to Chairman Mao,

Young overseas Chinese have returned to China and have joined in nation-wide campaigns to increase production and in the movement to Oppose American Imperialism and Aid Korea. They have organized delegations to make tours throughout the country.

The history of the overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia has been one of persecution for many years, but it is now coming to an end. China has been liberated and the days when the Chinese people can be oppressed and made the victims of racial discrimination are gone. Today the overseas Chinese have a powerful and united homeland to support them. Let them unite closely with the people at home, as well as with the anti-imperialist, peace-loving people of Asia to end the era of imperialist enslavement of the Asian people.

LIN JUI-PING

Shanghai
February, 7, 1952

visible by the day. We are no longer a nation in which people walk with freedom and the right to speak unmolested. All the more therefore do we envy the strivings of our Chinese trade union brothers who are finding, holding and further developing the ideas of freedom which found their origin in the American Revolution.

Please give our best wishes to any and all Chinese trade unionists for us. Bid them not to falter. Tell them American workers are not in accord with the horrors being perpetrated by the great finance capitalists of this nation of ours.

A. D. M.

Wilkinsburg, Pa.
January 28, 1952

## TOO MANY PIX

To the Editor:

We are a group of fervent readers of your valuable magazine for many months. We are very much delighted in seeing the handy size and its handsome cover, but can't feel very satisfied because some articles are very short. The material comprises only about one-half of its former size. And we are of the opinion that there are too many pictures instead of more good articles.

S. L. LEE, C. Y. WANG, T. M. LING,
SUN CHIEN

Soochow Middle School
February 8, 1952

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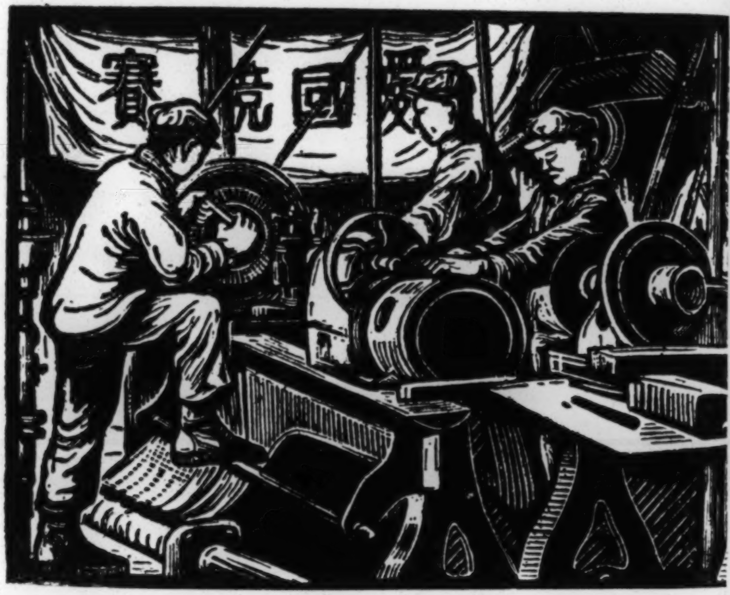
*Filipino prisoners in North Korea spend some leisure time by playing cards.*

*Chinese volunteer with POW's at picnic near the prisoners' camp in North Korea.*



*Increase Production to Support the Front*

*— A woodcut by Hsueh Yu*